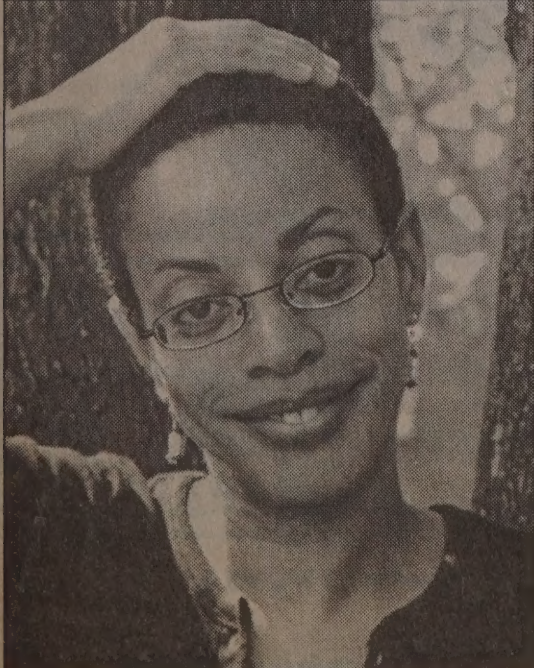
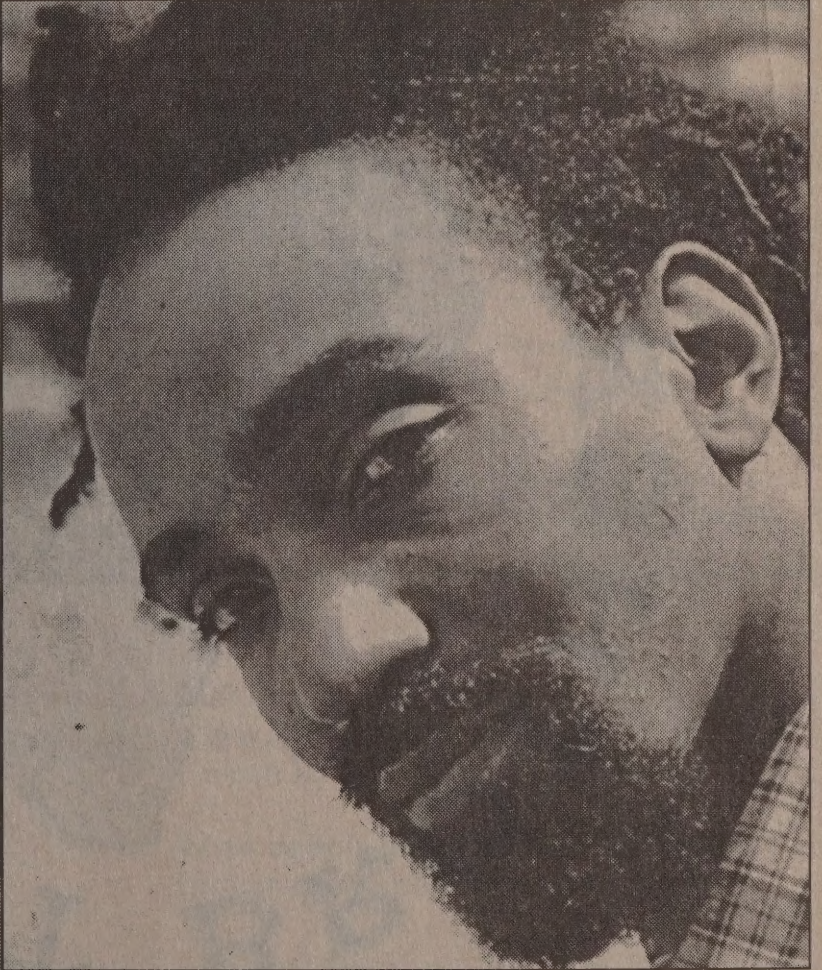


BLACK LINES

Sept. 2002, Vol. 7, No. 8 Free/\$2 outside Chicago EXPRESSIONS FROM BLACK GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDERED LIFE

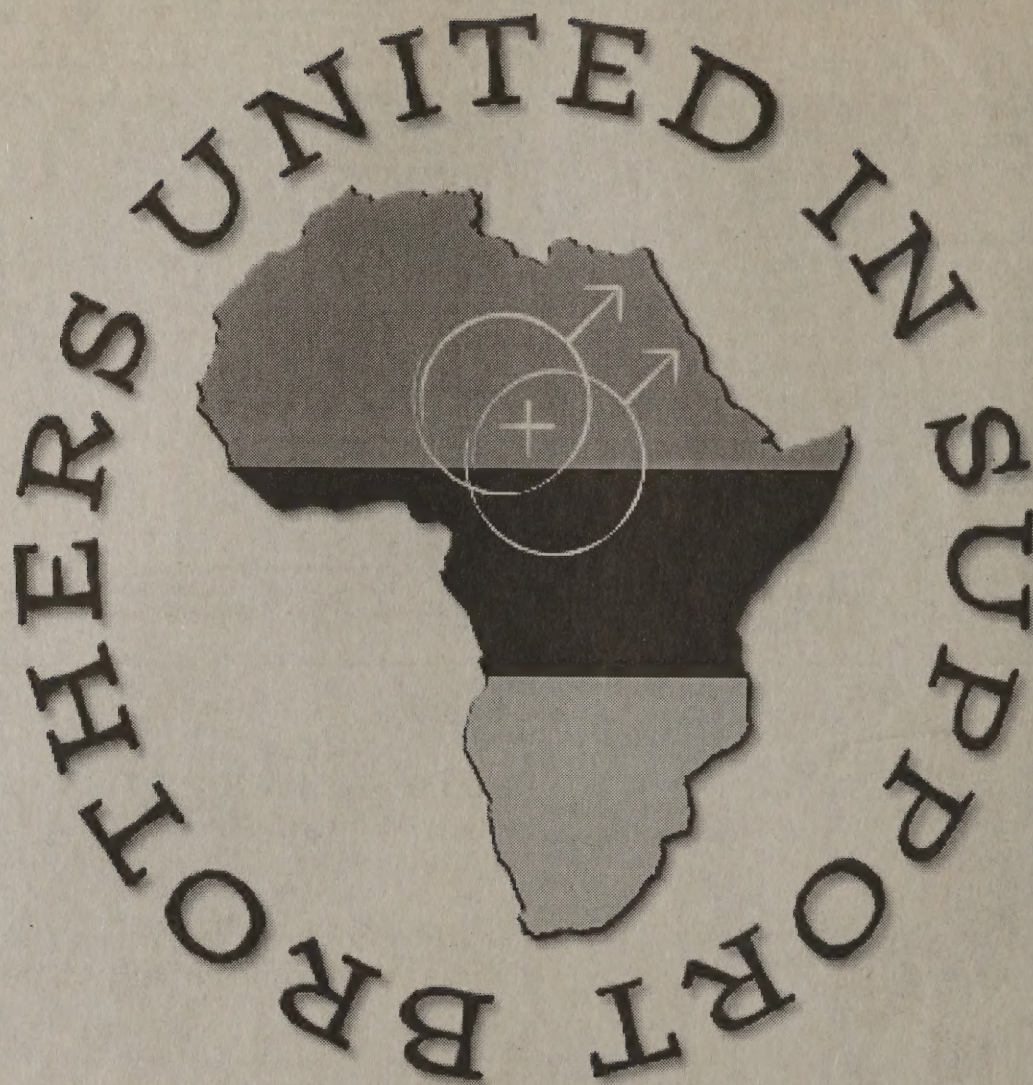


FIRE & INK

GLBT African Writers Fest in
Chicago Sept. 19-22, p. 14

Sharon Bridgforth
(top left),
Thomas Glave,
and Lisa Moore.

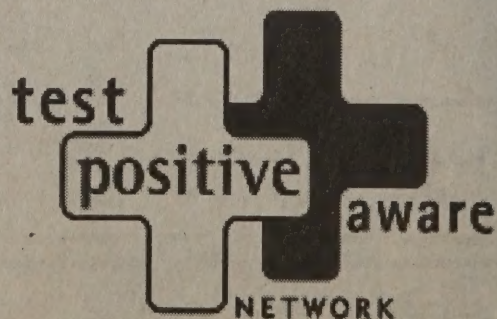
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BLACKlines

Sept., 2002

Volume 7, Number 8

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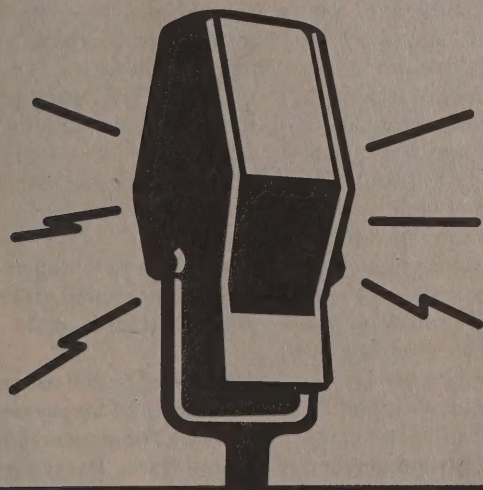
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TRANS DEATHS IN D.C.: It's Murder Out There

BY MIRANDA STEVENS-
MILLER

Stephanie Thomas and Ukea Davis ... two teenage Washington, D.C., girls who, as luck would have it, happened to be transgender.

According to reports: "Witnesses say a car drove up beside the two youths, and a gunman fired shots from an automatic weapon. The gunfire killed Davis and critically wounded Thomas ... The gunman then got out of the first car and fired additional shots into Thomas' car, killing her."

The D.C. police have said they don't know whether this was a hate crime. What more do they need to call it a hate crime? They were gunned

down for no other reason than they were transgender. And the killer came back to finish the job.

When the firefighters arrived on the scene, Stephanie and Ukea were already dead. There was nothing more they could do ... except the unthinkable ...

"The dead women were dragged out of Thomas' bullet-riddled car, and Thomas' body was dropped face first on the ground. Later a firefighter pushed Thomas' body over with his foot, as blood poured from her head and neck wounds."

I don't know whether we will ever know what happened that morning, the wee hours of the morning of Aug. 12, when Stephanie and Ukea were gunned down. But I sure as hell know a hate crime when I see it, and that firefighter was every bit as guilty of a hate crime as the cold-blooded murderer who pulled the trigger.

It's happened in Washington, D.C., before, when Tyra Hunter was allowed to die by a paramedic

who thought it was funny that she was transgender. It's happened in New York, when Amanda Milan bled to death as the bystanders looked on and cheered. It's happened in Chicago, when police and paramedics refused to help a transgender woman who had been shot in the back and was lying face down on the sidewalk.

There are layers upon layers of injustice that are going on here. A murderer comes back to make sure that the victim's dead. A crowd looks on and laughs. A paramedic finds it all so amusing. A firefighter is ready to risk life and limb to save a dog from a burning building, but won't lift a finger to help a transgender girl. The police don't call it a hate crime.

How can people treat other people like this?

And all the while, politicians at all levels of government smile and talk and argue about basic rights or special rights, and where we can go to the bathroom.

Don't the politicians know that while they debate about hate-crimes laws and non-discrimination acts, people's lives are being destroyed?

The answer can start with them. It has been four years since Matthew Shepard was killed, and we still don't have a federal hate-crimes law that includes sexual orientation and gender identity. And in Chicago, we still don't have protection for transgender people under the city's Human Rights Ordinance.

No wonder people feel like they can treat us like this. Even the government doesn't recognize that we are human beings.

It's murder out there. But no one seems to care.

The murders of Stephanie Thomas and Ukea Davis were the 15th and 16th hate-motivated transgender murders recorded within a 9-month

period. That's almost two murders per month. This year is shaping up to be the deadliest year yet for the transgender community.

The Remembering Our Dead Web site (www.gender.org/remember) commemorates the lives of transgender men and women who were murdered over the past decade or so. The site now lists the names of 242 people who were killed because of their gender identity or expression. The victims of anti-transgender hate-motivated violence outnumber those killed in the bombing of the Oklahoma City Federal Building.

Do we have to wait until the number of people on the Remembering Our Dead list surpasses the number of victims of the World Trade Center attack before people sit up and take notice?

Stephanie Thomas and Ukea Davis... remember those names. When the battle for transgender rights is won, and our history is written, their names will stand with the hundreds of other innocent transgender people who were murdered just for being who they are.

Miranda Stevens-Miller welcomes your comments at MirandaSt1@aol.com.

There is a \$10,000 reward in the murder of Stephanie (Wilbur) Thomas and Ukea (Deon) Davis. The two transgendered women were members of Transgender Health Empowerment, an African-American transgender support group coordinated by Earline Budd in D.C. They also may have been members of the Teen Divas of the Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League. A vigil was held in D.C., and national GLBT groups condemned the murders.

BISHOP RESIGNS AFTER WEB-SITE REPORTS

The auxiliary Roman Catholic Bishop of Cape Town, South Africa, resigned July 17 following allegations that he outed himself as gay and horny on a sometimes-sexually charged Web site set up for gay priests.

Bishop Reginald Cawcutt blamed the scandal on the conservative U.S. organization Roman Catholic Faithful which infiltrated the now-closed Web site, called St. Sebastian's Angels, and traced posting addresses.

Cawcutt said he participated in the discussions only because he ministered to gay Catholics and Catholics with AIDS, and claimed he always promoted celibacy in his postings on the site.

He resigned, he said, to prevent division in the church.

SESAME STREET TO ADD HIV+ CHARACTER

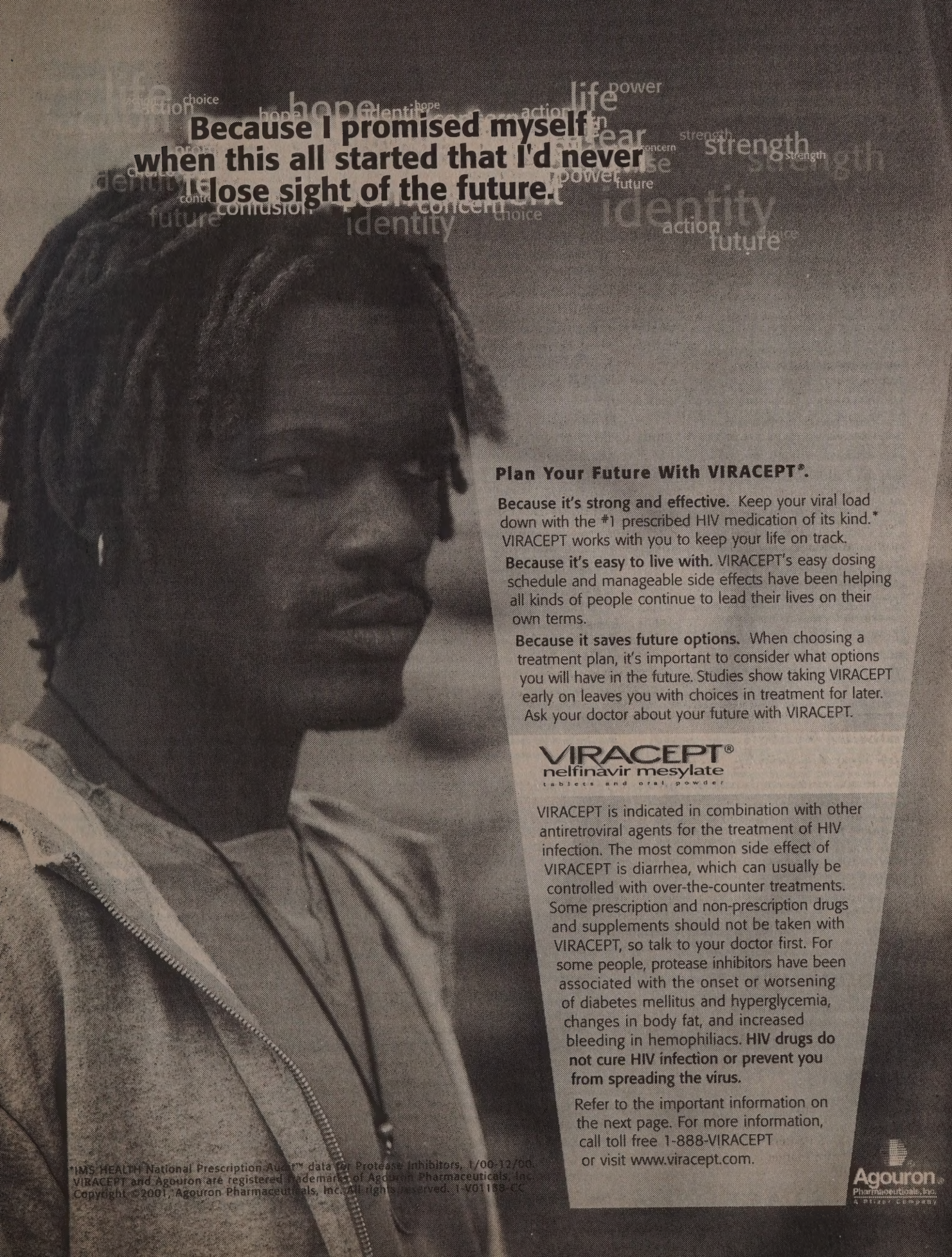
Sesame Street South Africa will add an HIV-positive Muppet in September.

The program airs on the South African Broadcasting Corp. One in five South African adults is HIV-positive.

"Women are often stigmatized about HIV and we are providing a good role model as to how to deal with one's situation and how to interact with the community," Sesame Street Workshop V.P. Joel Schneider told Reuters.

The program's target audience is kids ages 3 to 7.

— Rex Wockner



Because I promised myself
when this all started that I'd never
lose sight of the future.

Plan Your Future With VIRACEPT®.

Because it's strong and effective. Keep your viral load down with the #1 prescribed HIV medication of its kind.* VIRACEPT works with you to keep your life on track.

Because it's easy to live with. VIRACEPT's easy dosing schedule and manageable side effects have been helping all kinds of people continue to lead their lives on their own terms.

Because it saves future options. When choosing a treatment plan, it's important to consider what options you will have in the future. Studies show taking VIRACEPT early on leaves you with choices in treatment for later. Ask your doctor about your future with VIRACEPT.

VIRACEPT®
nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

VIRACEPT is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection. The most common side effect of VIRACEPT is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with over-the-counter treatments. Some prescription and non-prescription drugs and supplements should not be taken with VIRACEPT, so talk to your doctor first. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in body fat, and increased bleeding in hemophiliacs. **HIV drugs do not cure HIV infection or prevent you from spreading the virus.**

Refer to the important information on the next page. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.viracept.com.

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VIRACEPT[®]
(nelfinavir mesylate)

Tablets and Oral Powder

Information for Patients
about VIRACEPT[®] (n-3-cept)

Generic Name: nelfinavir (nelfinavir) mesylate
For the Treatment of Human
Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

Alert: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with VIRACEPT. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH VIRACEPT".

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. Although VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, VIRACEPT can help reduce your risk for death and illness associated with HIV. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT should be taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir[®] (zidovudine, AZT), EpiVir[®] (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zentri[®] (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding.

Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the face, legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Medicines you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Propulsid[®] (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone[®] (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinagilide[®], Cardioquin[®], Quinidex[®], and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot[®] and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion[®] (triazolam)

Mersed[®] (mildazolam)

Mevacor[®] (lovastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Zocor[®] (simvastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

Rifampin[®] (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane[®], Rifadin[®], Rifalene[®], or Rifamate[®]

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with: Mycobutin[®] (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with: Phenobarbital

Phenytoin (Dilantin[®] and others)

Carbamazepine (Tegretol[®] and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra[®] (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor[®] (lovastatin) or Zocor[®] (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor[®] (atorvastatin) and Baycol[®] (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

Taking St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort with VIRACEPT is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease VIRACEPT levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to VIRACEPT or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)

EpiVir (lamivudine, 3TC)

Zentri (stavudine, d4T)

Videx[®] (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT:

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune[®] (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood is unchanged. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Viramune.

Sustiva[™] (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan[®] (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir[™] (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase[®] (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 15-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium[®] A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include nausea, gas and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been

due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. VIRACEPT tablets are film-coated to help make the tablets easier to swallow.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily				
Body Weight	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets	
Kg	Lb			
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	---
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	---
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	---
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	---
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	---
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	---
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw away medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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Young, Gifted, Black and gay

It's hard enough to be a teenager or a young adult today—what with the changes in education that have resulted due to the technological explosion (can you say CD player, Internet and cell phone?). But if you're young *and* LGBT, there are even more challenges to face.

That's why one should applaud the efforts of TaskForce AIDS Prevention and Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays (CBLG) in their co-sponsorship of the first annual Youth Pride 2002.

The two-day event, held the weekend after Windy City Black Pride, was an effort to continue CBLG's tradition of providing an annual youth educational event. But the new piece to the puzzle is TaskForce AIDS Prevention, a partner of South Side Help Center's Young Men for Community Advocacy Project—a new CDC-funded program that is one of a very few on the South Side that offers HIV prevention and education services to young GBT and other men who have sex with men.

Who says adults aren't listening to young people? According to Robert Ames, youth planning committee chairperson, CBLG, the planning committee involved a diverse group of individuals from the LGBT community—70 percent were youth.

"We sought to have representation from all sub-populations of the LGBT community and were successful in involving young gay men and women, but found it difficult to solicit participation from transgender youth," Ames said. "Our objective was to encourage the youth to celebrate themselves and have pride in their sexuality. And we wanted to assist them in gaining insight about the barriers and perceived needs of LGBT youth that would support increased involvement in advocacy for LGBT issues within their communities."

The conference began with workshops held at DePaul University and a social event at Route 66 on Saturday [the first

day], followed by a picnic on Sunday at Rainbow Beach. But while workshop facilitators like Draco Forte, Verlana Johnson and Lorraine Sade Baskerville devised creative strategies to target different sub-populations and addressed some of their specific concerns, youth participation was low.

"In our evaluation, we determined that the low attendance for the workshops on Saturday and the difference in our attendance expectations may have been more harmonious if there [had been] some form of pre-registration," Ames said.

Susan Stanley, steering committee co-chair, CBLG, said she thought attendance would pick up in subsequent years as more youth hear about the conference. "It was a fabulous two days," she said. "But it's the first year we've done something like this. We realize the importance of building the rapport with LGBT youth of color in Chicago and with the power of word-of-mouth, a lot of the young people now realize that workshops can be fun and interesting."

Both Stanley and Ames admit the most attended event was the picnic, hosted by Sapphire Blue and the very popular Ms. Ruff-N-Stuff. And they added they have already started to consider next year's Youth Pride 2003—and how to improve both programming and participation.

"We had some great financial sponsors for this year, but we needed more support," Ames said. "So that's one thing that we need to focus on. The other fact to consider is the lack of support for LGBT youth in Chicago that is significantly prevalent on the South Side. There is a more visible campaign to increase services for youth, but not enough momentum and action being put forth. Our program is only a small piece of the puzzle to establish comprehensive services and support for LGBT youth."

Brooks Poetry Honors

The Illinois State Poetry Society announces its first Gwendolyn Brooks poetry contest. Held in memory of the late Poet Laureate of Illinois, this

contest has been added on to the annual poetry competition which the ISPS has held for many years. The theme for the Brooks contest for this fall is "Ordinary People/Ordinary Days/Ordinary Tasks." The deadline is Oct. 1, 2002.

The ISPS encourages both published and unpublished poets to read some of Brooks' poetry and to respond by writing poems for the contest. www.illinoispoets.org/contest.htm or call (630) 964-1922.

Agencies Promote Women's Health Fair

Howard Brown Health Center is partnering with Horizons, Affinity Community Services, Amigas Latinas, Literary Exchange, The Chicago Dept. of Health Office of Lesbian and Gay Health, and The City of Chicago University of Illinois at Chicago to put on the second annual Women Who Love Women Health Fest.

Last year's festival was attended by more than 300 women, and is expected to draw more than 500 women this year. Attendees will also enjoy a vast array of workshops, free refreshments and entertainment including poetry readings by CC Carter and friends, and drumming by Groove Ova.

The event will be Sunday, Sept.

15 at The University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago Circle Center, 750 S. Halsted.

Shailey Merchant, Women's Program Manager at Howard Brown said "this is a great opportunity for all of our organizations to pool our resources and offer the community a fun and informative event". Please contact Bianca Wilson at (312) 996-5089 or biancaw@uic.edu. For booths, contact Shailey Merchant at (773) 388-8926 or shaileym@howardbrown.org.

Meanwhile, the Mautner Project will present the National Lesbian Health Conference: Healing Works, Sept. 26-28 in Washington, D.C. "The National Lesbian Health Conference is crucial to the advancement of lesbian health on all levels," said Mautner Project Executive Director, Kathleen DeBold. The National Lesbian Health Conference: Healing Works is planned and sponsored by a broad coalition of more than 60 groups and agencies including the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, National Latino/Latina Gay and Lesbian Organization (LLEGO), Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE), National Coalition of LGBT Health Projects, Sexual Minority Youth Coalition, and the Zuna Institute.

Call (202) 332-5536 or mautner@mautnerproject.org or visit our Web site at www.mautnerproject.org.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Chef Willa J. Taylor and Taylor-Made Cuisine present home: a brunch café, opening Saturday, Aug. 24 9 a.m.-2 p.m., 4664 N. Manor, (773) 866-0345. The youngest in a family of fabulous Southern cooks, Taylor learned the basics from her father, a cook on the Southern Pacific railroad, and her grandmother, Nana. She left the University of Texas to join the Navy and while overseas, she worked with chefs in Greece, Turkey and Italy. Taylor moved to New York as the Education Director at Lincoln Center Theater and also served as Cultural Festival Director for the Gay Games in 1994. After moving to Chicago to be with her partner, Mary Morten, Willa was finally able to pursue her true passion—food.

Susan Stanley, one of our community's hardest working leaders, who always wears a smile, is moving out of state, and in with her mother, to cope with her health problems. Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays, which Stanley has co-chaired, is hosting a tribute Sat., Sept. 21, 7-11 p.m., 1360 W. 79th. Tix \$10 advance, \$15 at the door. Call (773) 447-0580; CBLG2K1@aol.com.



Susan Stanley

Calendar

Wednesday, Aug. 28

GLBT Pride Fest First of four town hall meetings, open to anyone in the LGBT community who wishes to share ideas and offer support for next year's GLBT Pride Festival. 7 p.m., Ann Sather, 929 W. Belmont, (773) 975-9035

Thursday, Aug. 29

Be Positive Tonight II Northstar Healthcare presents an evening for HIV+ people to mix, mingle and meet other HIV+ people in the community. Honey West hosts; DJs Earl Pleasure and Timmy Loop spin; Ann Sather provides the catering; Joel Hall Dancers, Miss Kitty's Latin Revue, and the dancers of the Jeffrey Ballet entertain. 6:30-10 p.m., free, Circuit, 3641 N. Halsted, (773) 296-2400

Chicago Cultural Center Frankphonies and Silver Cycles: African-Americans and Electronic Music in Chicago, a lecture and panel discussion featuring musicians Kelan Philip Cohran, George Lewis and Jeff Parker. 12:15 p.m., Claudia Cassidy Theater, 78 E. Washington, (312) 744-6630

Chicago Jazz Festival This 24th annual festival offers three stages with a wide array of performers, including Ahmad Jamal, Patricia Barber, Chico Hamilton, Grazyna Auguscik, Phil Woods, Mal Waldron, Von Freeman and Wayne Shorter, thru Sept 1st. Grant Park, (312) 744-3370

Chicago Metropolitan Sports Assoc. (CMSA) Registration for women's flag football. 7:30 p.m., Girl Bar, 2625 N. Halsted, rcqballer@aol.com, www.chicagomsa.com

Lincoln Park Lagooners Registration for weekly bowling league, which starts Thursday, Sept. 5th. 8-10 p.m., Marigold Bowl, 828 W. Grace, for details call Felix at (773) 477-5998

No Exit Cafe Grinder, Scott Free's weekly showcase of queer words and music, features Selly Thiam and Heather's Damage, with special guest Nedra Johnson. 8 p.m., 6970 N. Glenwood, (773) 743-3355, www.scottfree.net

October 22 Coalition Kick-off meeting to mobilize for this year's October 22 Day rally and parade. The group, a coalition of people opposed to police brutality and oppression of all kinds, is especially interested in input from LGBTQA persons. 6:30 p.m., Trinity Church, 26th and Michigan, (773) 528-1701, www.october22.org

Friday, Aug. 30

Nevin's Live Windy City Radio Music Series presents Tom Yore and Stewed Tomatoes. 10 p.m., 1450 Sherman Ave., Evanston, (847) 869-0450, www.nevinlive.com

Sunday, Sept. 1

Chix Mix Productions Shake yer booty at Disco Inferno the latest dance party from the gals at Chix Mix, with DJ Harry T spinning music

from the 70s to 2002, sexy bartenders, Studio 54 wild women dancers, and a totally 80s blue martini room. 9 p.m.-4 a.m., Transit, 1431 W. Lake, (773) 583-5049, chixmixprod@aol.com, www.chixmixproductions.com

Midwest Women's Autumnfest This day-long outdoor celebration features music, workshops, crafts, drumming and more. Performers include poets C.C. Carter and Alix Olson, comedian Vickie Shaw, musicians Ellis, Nedra Johnson, Zlickminds, Commonbond, and more. Gates open at 11 a.m., \$26 advance/\$34 gate, Annie Glidden Rd., DeKalb, (815) 748-5359, mwautumn@aol.com

Oak Park Conservatory Seventh Festival of Potluck Foods, a potluck picnic on a grand scale, with music, art and performance to entertain. Beverages are provided; your admission ticket is bringing a favorite dish for eight or more. 1-7 p.m., corner of Garfield and Clarence, (773) 628-3348

Windy City Radio Lambda Publications' radio show, Windy City Radio, tonight and every Sunday. 10:30 p.m.-midnight, WCKG, 105.9 FM, (773) 871-7610, www.windycityradio.com

Monday, Sept. 2

Bravo Channel Gay Weddings, an original reality miniseries runs nightly through Thursday, Sept. 5th. Check cable listings for details.

Saturday, Sept. 7

Adodi Chicago Monthly meeting; this month, an overview of the 16th Annual National Adodi Summer Retreat 2002 led by facilitators Max Smith, Victor Pond and Marvin Evans. 2-4 p.m., Minority Outreach Intervention Project, 1346 S. Michigan, (312) 458-9584, adodichicago@yahoo.com

Affinity Healthy Woman Series—Walking with the Gurls; call for details. (773) 324-0377, affinity95@aol.com, www.affinity95.org

Gerber/Hart Library 5th Date Auction—The men's event is at Madrigal's, 5316 N. Clark, and is hosted by Miss Tiger. The women's event, hosted by the comedy troupe Hysterical Women, is across the street at Star Gaze, 5419 N. Clark; both are at 7 p.m. \$10, (773) 381-8030

TallGrass Writers Guild Summer's End, a presentation of the TallGrass Performance Ensemble with Paula Pivon, Whitney Scott and Diane Williams reading works by Robert Frost, William Shakespeare, Sylvia Plath, Ntozake Shange and more. 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., 4200 W. 183rd, Country Club Hills, (708) 798-2616, ext. 2260, outriderpr@aol.com

Sunday, Sept. 8

Men of All Colors/Cultures Together (MACT) Monthly meeting features a presentation on interracial attraction with Kevin Osten and Dennis Zygadlo. 4 p.m., Ann Sather, 929 W. Belmont, mactchgo@aol.com

Wednesday, Sept. 11

OPALGA Windy City Times joins with this Oak

Park LGBT neighbors group to present a response to the anniversary of the events of September 11th. Speakers, poetry and readings, with music by Washington DC's Commonbond. 7:30 p.m., Così Restaurant, 1101 Lake St., Oak Park, (708) 848-0273

Voce Femmina Michael Wilson directs this women's chamber vocal ensemble in 9-11-02, a concert of works by Debussy, Ravel, John Lennon, Tori Amos, Gordon Lightfoot, Elton John and Dolly Parton, as well as poetry by Arthur Rimbaud and Siegfried Sassoon. 8 p.m., Chase Cafe, 7301 N. Sheridan, (773) 860-5789, quinto@ripco.com

Thursday, Sept. 12

Affinity Lez Chat topic this month is Worth, Work and Wellness. 7-9 p.m., 5650 S. Woodlawn, lower level, (773) 324-0377, affinity95@aol.com, www.affinity95.org

Human Rights Campaign Swing for Equality, HRC's first annual women's golf outing, with 18 holes of golf, BBQ, live music and visits from female golf pros. 11 a.m., Sunset Valley Golf Course, Highland Park, (847) 432-7140 (Sunset Valley), (773) 338-8788 (HRC), hrcswing@yahoo.com

Friday, Sept. 13

Gene Siskel Film Center The Senegalese film Karmen Gei, about an electric bisexual diva, is based on Bizet's opera Carmen and runs tonight through Sept. 19th. 164 N. State, (312) 846-2800, www.siskelfilmcenter.org

TPAN (Test Positive Aware Network) TPAN's annual gala, with an elegant evening of food, drink, music and silent and live auctions. Germania Place, (773) 989-9400, www.tpan.com

Women & Children First Friday Fuel, Women & Children First's new local music showcase, presents a performance by singer/songwriter Ripley Caine. 7:30 p.m., 5233 N. Clark, (773) 769-9299, www.womenandchildrenfirst.com

Saturday, Sept. 14

Affinity Healthy Woman Series—Walking with the Gurls; call for details. (773) 324-0377, affinity95@aol.com, www.affinity95.org

Mountain Moving Coffee House for Womyn and Children Lucie Blue Tremblay. 7:30 p.m., 1700 W. Farragut, (312) 409-0276

Paramount Arts Centre Disco queen Gloria Gaynor takes the stage. \$35-\$45, 8 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora, (630) 896-6666

Sunday, Sept. 15

University of Illinois at Chicago Women Who Love Women Health Fest 2002, with workshops, entertainment, refreshments and more. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Chicago Circle Center, 750 S. Halsted, biancaw@uic.edu, (312) 996-5089

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Affinity Social Justice Forum this month discusses Election 2002: Does Our Voice Count? Speak Out to the Candidates. 7-9 p.m., 5650 S. Woodlawn, lower level, (773) 324-0377, affinity95@aol.com, www.affinity95.org

Chicago Professional Networking Networking, with dinner, cash bar and a presentation by Dramatic Diversity. Buddies', 3301 N. Clark

Thursday, Sept 19

University of Illinois at Chicago Fire & Ink: A Writer's Festival for GLBT People of African Descent brings together writers, thinkers, teachers, publishers and media professionals to discuss the position and importance of African diasporic LGBT literature, culture and artistic expression. Panel discussions, workshops and readings will feature Thomas Glave, Samuel Delany, Keith Boykin, C.C. Carter, Cheryl Clarke, Jewelle Gomez, James Earl Hardy, Dwight A. McBride, Reginald Shepherd, Pamela Sneed, Marvin K. White and many others. Through Sunday, Sept. 22nd. Chicago Circle Center, 750 S. Halsted, (202) 452-7440, fireandink@aol.com

Friday, Sept. 20

Affinity Affinity's Forty Plus group leaves town for a weekend of hiking, fishing, camping and more, through Sunday, Sept. 22nd; call for details. (773) 324-0377, affinity95@aol.com, www.affinity95.org

City of Chicago The 4th Annual World Music Festival showcases musicians from every corner of the planet. This year's line-up includes performers from dozens of countries, including Benin, Bulgaria, Cuba, France, India, Mexico, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and more. At venues throughout the city, through Sept 29th. (312) 742-1938

Chicago Department of Public Health The Chicago area HIV Services Planning Council meets to assess needs for local HIV services. Free and open to the public. 10 a.m.-noon, Egan Urban Center, 243 S. Wabash, Room 9102, (312) 747-9646

Saturday, Sept. 21

Affinity Healthy Woman Series—Walking with the Gurls; call for details. (773) 324-0377, affinity95@aol.com, www.affinity95.org

Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays CBLG honors Susan Stanley, co-chair of the organization, who is leaving Chicago. 7-11 p.m., \$10 advance/\$15 door, 1360 W. 79th, (773) 447-0580

Monday, Sept. 23

Black Theatre Alliance Awards This ceremony honors African Americans who have achieved excellence in theater, dance and other performing arts in the past artistic season, and Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs receives the 2002 Award of merit for his career contributions as actor, writer, producer and director. 7 p.m., DuSable Museum, 740 E. 56th Pl., (773) 624-5729, www.btaawards.org

Tuesday, Sept. 24

Cell Block Hall of Fame Celebrity Auction, to benefit the 2002 Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame. 7:30 p.m., 3702 N. Halsted, (773) 281-5095, www.galhalloffame.org

Wednesday, Sept. 25

GLBT Pride Fest Fourth of four town hall meetings, open to anyone in the LGBT community who wishes to share ideas and offer support for next year's GLBT Pride Festival. 7 p.m., Church of the Open Door, 5954 S. Albany, 929 W. Belmont, (773) 975-9035

Friday, Sept. 27

Amigas Latinas Proyecto ¡Basta!, a bilingual workshop for service providers to learn as well as educate others about the prevalence of domestic violence in Latina same-gender couples. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free, Alivio Medical Center, 966 W. 21st, please RSVP to (312) 401-1023 or amigas95@hotmail.com

Saturday, Sept. 28

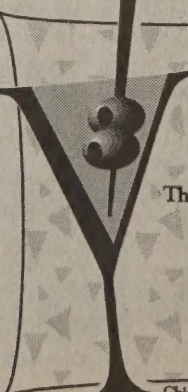
Affinity Healthy Woman Series—Walking with the Gurls; call for details. (773) 324-0377, affinity95@aol.com, www.affinity95.org

Sunday, Sept. 29

AIDS Foundation of Chicago Chicago's Run and Walk for AIDS in Grant Park, a 5K walk and run that raises money for AIDS organizations throughout the area. 10 a.m., Grant Park, Columbus & Roosevelt, (773) 868-3010, www.aidschicago.org

Lesbian Community Cancer Project 7th Annual LCCP Jazz Brunch Cruise aboard the Odyssey sets sail from Navy Pier with a buffet brunch, live jazz, live auction and open bar. Top deck champagne pre-reception 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., cruise departs at 1 p.m. and returns to shore at 3:30 p.m. (773) 561-4662, ext 102, www.lccp.org

www.WindyCityTimes for complete calendar and entertainment lists.



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6:00-8 pm

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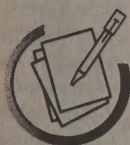
Chicago Professional (Gay & Lesbian) Networking Organization

Creating Visibility



Women Who Love Women

Health Festival 2002: Come enjoy empowering workshops, entertainment & free refreshments! University of Illinois at Chicago/Chicago Circle Center. Call Bianca Wilson for more info (312) 996-5089. *September 15th, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm.*



Fire & Ink

Fire and Ink Writer's Conference: A Writer's Festival for GLBT People of African Descent. University of Illinois at Chicago/Chicago Circle Center. For more info contact Fire & Ink (202) 452-7440. Conference Pre-registration Fee: \$75.00 *September 19th - 22nd*



Farewell Party/ FundRaiser

Farewell Party/ FundRaiser for Susan Stanley Sponsored by Chicago's Black Lesbians and Gays 1360 W. 79th Street. \$10 in Advance/\$15.00 at the Door. For more info call Dwayne (773) 447-0580. *September 21st, 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm*



Cruise

LCCP Jazz Cruise ... Aboard the Odyssey! Call the LCCP for more details (773) 561-4662. *Sunday, September 29th*



Youth Drop-In

XPU Youth Group (under 24yrs of age). Large Screen Movie, Juice Bar/Food. Admission: \$2.00 *October 4th, 7:00 - 10:00 pm*

Mark Your Calendars

• Lez Chat

Worth, Work and Wellness
Part-1: Series on Economic Empowerment
Thursday, Sept. 12th
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

• Healthy Women

Walkin With the Gurls
Call Affinity for more info.
Saturdays - Sept. 7th, 14th,
21st & 28th

• Social Justice

Election 2002:
Does Our Voice Count?
Speak Out to the Candidates
Wednesday, Sept. 18th
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

• Volunteer Orientation

Thursday, Sept. 19th
7:00 pm

• Forty Plus

Join Us for Another Fun
Weekend of Camping out!
Open to All! Hiking, Fishing,
Tenting & More! Call
Affinity for more info.
Friday, Sept. 20th to
Sunday, Sept. 22nd

For more information please visit our website @ www.affinity95.org
or call Affinity Community Services (773) 324-0377.

Affinity Community Services, 5650 S. Woodlawn Ave., Garden Level, Chicago, IL 60637



NATIONAL BLACK LESBIAN AND GAY LEADERSHIP FORUM

By Earnest Edward Hite
and Jason Michael

The National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum held its 14th Annual National conference July 25-28 at the Pontchartrain Hotel in Detroit. The conference called us to Discover the Leadership Forum. The Forum had its normal mix of Institutes that encompassed Health and Wellness, Womyn's Health, Youth Health, and Transgender Health and Wellness. The workshops had a sparse offering that addressed living with HIV, relationships, intimacy, spirituality, substance abuse, legal issues, international human rights, and self-discovery.

In a first-time collaboration, the Leadership Forum partnered with Detroit's Black Pride, Inc. "Hotter Than July." The conference was held near Detroit's beautiful waterfront area and attracted less than 70 attendees from across the country.

The official start of Hotter Than July (HTJ) 2002 followed tradition, kicking off with a spiritual service and candlelight vigil in Palmer Park. But it really began a few blocks away at the corner of Woodward Avenue and Six Mile Road. Just over 200 folks marched through the streets and into the park, led by the Grand Marshal Councilwoman Alberta Tinsley-Talabi. "I want you to know that I am at the right place at the right time, and we are the right people," said Tinsley-Talabi before welcoming everyone to the event on behalf of Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and the entire City Council. State Sen. Alma Wheeler-Smith, runningmate to gubernatorial candidate U.S. Rep. David Bonior, attended a luncheon at the Crowne Plaza Pontchartrain.

Alvan Quimina, executive director of the Leadership Forum, has guided the group, now based in Oakland, Calif., since 2000; he has not had a salary for two years. "We now have the necessary tools to do

this work," said Quimina. The Forum has continued to rebuild from its early glory days in Los Angeles, under the reign of Phill Wilson, who served the Forum for its first decade.

"Our budget is now at \$600,000 annually" said Quimina. This consists of three major contracts from two funding sources. The largest is from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in association with Jackson State University, Miss., to provide Capacity building and Leadership development to African American Young Men who have Sex with Men (YMSM). The second is a sub-contract from the National AIDS Education and Services for Minorities, based in Atlanta. This program is called AMUAA (African American Men United against AIDS) and involves 13 states in an area identified as the Western Region of the U.S. and is designed to assist in community building within local organizations for gay men of African Descent, and increase the number of African Americans on the local HIV Prevention Community Planning Groups.

The third is another sub-contract from the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) that is designed to provide organizational capacity building to African American YMSM.

Keynote speaker Hester Wheeler, executive director for the Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), first met with members of the HTJ planning committee earlier in the year. He said he's learned from the experience and hoped to work more closely with the city's Black gay community. "I know that being Black and gay is almost like being Negro to the third power: you ain't gonna have no ordinary discrimination experience," he said to thunderous applause. "There ought to be two or three reasons a year that we can work

together because we're trying to put out some of the same fires."

Sponsored jointly by HTJ and the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum as part of the two group's joint conference, awards were presented at the luncheon to Between The Lines (the Community Service Award), Rev. Karl Jackson (the Spiritual Award), Jack Gorro (the Volunteer Award), Imani Williams (the Pride Award) and PFLAG-Family Reunion (the DBG Pride Award).

Bryan Philpot, NBLGLF Conference Coordinator, presented four awards during a joint event of the Billionaire Boys' Club anniversary brunch on Sunday. The Club was the precursor to the Black Pride event known as Hotter Than July. Two awards were given posthumously, to longtime Forum members Ruth Waters and Tsi Tsi Tiripano, and two Carl Bean Spiritual Awards were presented to local ministers Jackson and Darlene Franklin.

Forum attendance was down dramatically from past conventions in Chicago in February 2000 and Oakland in February 2001. The Board of Directors decided to move the conference from its traditional setting during Black History Month in February to coincide with Detroit's Hotter Than July. The Forum's Chyrrill Quamina, administrative assistant, reported in advance of the event that over 200 had pre-registered, but less than a quarter actually showed.

Forum Board President Brenda Crawford—who promised at last year's picnic to bring "1,000 Black gays and lesbians to Detroit"—was absent, along with other board members, with the exception of Roosevelt Mosby. The Forum standing membership has dwindled from an impressive 9,000 LGBT persons to a disappointing 250 on their mailing list, said Alvan Quimina.

The Leadership Forum in 2001 closed its doors on the HIV/AIDS services program in Los Angeles. The forum leadership determined that they could no longer support the operation and remain solvent. The African American LGBTQ community has continued to ask the ques-

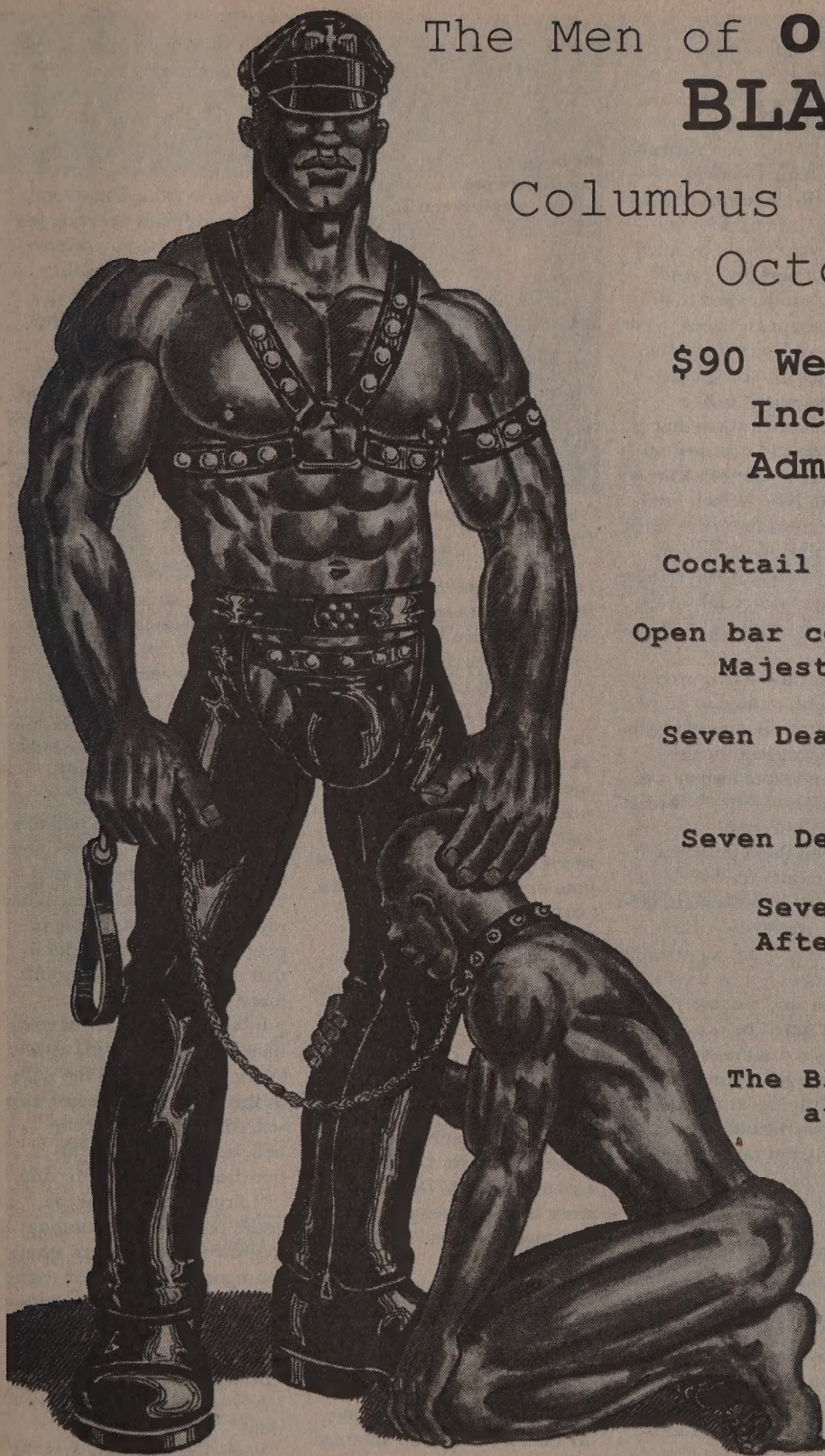
tion, what does the Forum really do? "Our sense of worth is generated by our ability to touch lives," said Quimina, and the Forum is moving away from its base and seeking to expand by becoming the voice for the African American LGBTQ community. "My vision is that we will become the NAACP for LGBTQs in the next two years," he said.

After the Forum relocated from D.C. in 2000 to Oakland, "the local community ... has been supportive to Leadership Forum by providing volunteers as we rebuild" said Quimina. July marked the first time the position of executive director will receive a salary and operate full-time with the Forum.

The Forum will focus on expansion of its Board. "In terms of governance I am seeking during this conference to increase Board membership," he said. While the forum has focused on paid membership to assist in its day-to-day operations, they are moving away from this modality. The Forum is seeking new funding streams to provide a strong foundation, flexibility and sustainability for the long-term needs of the African American LGBTQ community.

"Hotter Than July" also honored local community activists during the Genesis Summit III Conference Luncheon. The Keynote speaker, Hester Wheeler, executive director, NAACP-Detroit, opened up the gates for the Black LGBTQ community to become active in the fight for social justice.

Wheeler reminded the audience to use power and information to advance the community's agenda. "Where will you weigh in on these and other issues that impact our (the Black) community? I have come to understand that being Black and gay is like being Negro to the Third power." It was clear that Wheeler was open to working with the LGBTQ community. "The NAACP is opposed to any and all discrimination," he said. This National organization has once again stepped up to the plate to make a difference. Wheeler also spoke about the need to extend access to all members of our community and to work for freedom, diversity and social justice.



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October 11 -13

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Open bar cocktail party at The
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Seven Deadly Sins Brunch at
Cellblock

Seven Deadly Sins Banquet

Seven Deadly Sins
After hours party

and

The Blackout 7 Dance
at Cellblock

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BLACKLINES ▼ Page 11 ▼ September 2002

Horizons Copes with Fallout from Youth Prog. Changes

By D. Kevin McNeir

When approximately 15 youth clients arrived at the door of Horizons' Executive Director Frank Oldham Jr. several weeks ago, some wondered if he would listen to their concerns, or "sneak out the back door." But Oldham remained as the young clients voiced their frustrations about recent budget cuts and layoffs that included Otis Richardson, the youth counselor that many had learned to depend on and trust.

Now, after assessing the almost three-hour meeting, the beleaguered director has invited the youth to continue to meet with him on a monthly basis and has invited a communication specialist and colleague to assist Horizons as it seeks to revamp and revitalize its ailing youth program.

"I invited the youth to sit down with me and Steve Miller, our new youth director, and we listened to their complaints and recommendations for how we might continue our South Side services," Oldham said. "Clearly they were upset about losing Otis [Richardson], who they called their 'favorite counselor.' But I explained to them that it was a necessary step given the budget cuts our agency has taken."

In addition to Richardson, three other full-time employees and one consultant were laid off: Cydne Perhats, director of public relations and community affairs, Brian Wiley, senior development officer; and Edward Farnham, receptionist. Katie Walsh, a

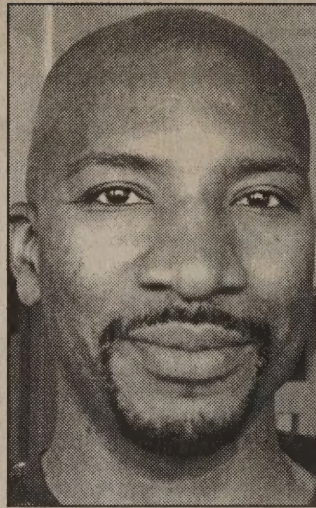
part-time grant writer, was also released.

"This definitely was not an issue of color," Oldham explained. "Only one African-American employee was released [Richardson] and several of the other staff members [all white] were people I brought in personally. And when the youth raised their concern about Horizons' commitment to diversity and the importance of having a gay African-American man on staff, I reminded them that not only do I fit that description, but I am also one who is living with HIV. In fact, I was brought in because our chairman, Patrick Sheehan, and president of the board, Denise Foy, believe so strongly in the benefits of a multi-cultural staff."

Oldham added that several of the youth wanted to know why Horizons is continuing its building program for the Center on Halsted when it is clear that the agency is facing a financial shortfall.

"I helped them understand that the money for the Center is all capital improvement dollars from the state—consequently, even if we wanted, the money could not be used in any other way," he said. "And as I have stated before, Horizons is not the only agency struggling financially in this period of cutbacks. We rely a great deal on private donations and right now that money is not coming in like it once did. But if other agencies are willing to combine their funds with our limited resources, I believe we can collectively secure a site for youth services on the city's South Side. Maybe even at some place like the Church of the Open Door, where many of the youth, and Richardson, are members."

Oldham believes that much of the current antagonism pre-dates his arrival at Horizons, but added he is committed to finding a solution. And while



Otis Richardson. Photo by Tracy Baim

he has not received a response from the youth regarding his invitation to a monthly tete-a-tete, he hopes they will respond affirmatively.

"The key is that we maintain an open dialogue about these issues and make sure our youth continue to receive services," he said. "They tell me that they want to go to a place where youth habitually congregate in safety and for the most part, that's places on the North Side like Horizons. Many feel more comfortable in receiving services away from their South Side neighborhoods."

Oldham has invited a former African-American colleague, Dr. George W. Roberts, special assistant for communities of color, Center for Disease Control, HIV/STD/TB to assist him in developing a constructive dialogue with the youth.

But Richardson, who is currently assessing several job offers from other agencies who provide services similar to those at Horizons, said while communication is important, he believes Horizons will need to totally revise its youth services program.

"I think the best thing management can do is to leave them alone to do what they need to do," he said. "My hope

is that they can create a space that is welcoming to all youth regardless of whether they are white gay male from Lincoln Park, a Latina lesbian from Humboldt Park or a Black trans youth from Englewood. It is very difficult to create programming for such a diverse population, but that is the challenge."

Richardson added that he misses working with the Horizons youth, but said he will find a way to connect with gay youth in the future, even if it is as a volunteer.

"Church of the Open Door, Adodi, Colors Youth and Brothers of the Open Door, have all reached out to me in support and fellowship," he said. "They are committed to the bigger issue, which is the need for quality services for our LGBT youth of color."

But he said he fears that many will see the sudden resignation of his former co-worker, Case Manager Bonnie Wade, as "the last straw."

Bonnie [Wade] is a hell of a case manager—I've never met anyone who has her level of energy and commitment. They will have to hire a couple of people to do what she did in that program. And the youth loved her."

In her written letter of resignation dated July 29 to Miller, Wade acknowledged the skills of the new youth director, and shared her belief that she believes the program will flourish under his leadership.

"I firmly believe that the youth program will continue to grow and become an even more amazing place for young people to develop and explore their lives," she said. "I am excited at the prospect of working with both you and Horizons in future collaborations."

Wade left Horizons Aug. 16 to pursue a master's in the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration.

September 29, 2002

7th A N N U A L

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Tickets

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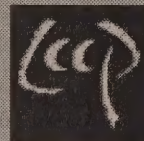
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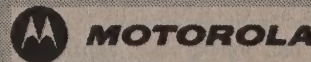
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On the Horizon— Fire and Ink Conference

By D. Kevin McNeir

Chicago's Black writers are preparing for what promises to be an exciting four-day conference that's scheduled to begin Thursday, Sept. 19 at UIC—ending Sunday, Sept. 22 with an interfaith service and closing discussion on the festival's future.

The festival for writers,

Bridgforth, [Chicago's] C.C. Carter, Dorothy Randall Gray, Reginald Harris and G. Winston James came up with the idea after growing tired of complaining about conferences that left them unsatisfied.

"A lot of us would always attend the Outwrite Conference held in Boston," she said. "Sometimes there would be over 1,000 people—but only a handful of people of color. We would sit out in the hotel lobby on the last day, sometimes skipping workshops, just to talk about our common concerns. We longed to connect with other writers of color but the planners didn't make that an easy task. That's when

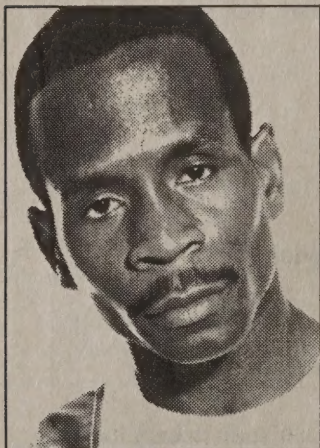
Besides Carter, other Chicago participants/readers include: Avery Young, Sanford Gaylord, Byron Stewart, Dwight McBride, Duriel E. Harris and Lynnell Long.

For more information call

welcome and libation
9-10:30 a.m.: Trailblazers Reading
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Panels
12:30-1:30 p.m.: Lunch (on your own)
1:30-3:30 p.m.: Concurrent workshops and panels
3:30-4 p.m.: Break
4-6 p.m.: workshops and panels
6-7 p.m.: Conversation rooms
8-10 p.m.: Invasion of the Southside reading (off-site)
10 p.m.-until: Fire & Ink Party II

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2002

PERFECTING YOUR CRAFT
9 a.m.-noon: Youth Open Mic
9 a.m.-noon: workshops
12-1 p.m.: Lunch (on your own)
1-2:30 p.m.: Concurrent panels



TOP: Lisa Moore. BELOW: C.C. Carter. MIDDLE, FROM LEFT: Glen James, Thomas Glave, Samiya Bashir and Reginald Harris, all expected at the conference.

thinkers, teachers, publishers and other media professionals is being touted as an opportunity for GLBT people of African descent to network and share ideas. But according to Lisa Moore, lead organizer and a writer from Washington, D.C., the real objective is to expand the conference so that it becomes "an LGBT conference for people of color."

"We just formed the organization to have the conference and we hope to meet every two years in different cities," Moore said. "In the off-years, hopefully there will be an interest for regional meetings. The key is to provide support for writers of color who often feel very isolated."

Moore says she, along with other conference organizers, Samiya Bashir, Sharon



we decided, 'we've got enough people coming each year to start something of our own.'"

Now, to facilitate the important objective of networking, the Fire & Ink schedule allows 30 minutes between each conference workshop to allow people to talk to one another. Conversation rooms will also be available at the end of the day.

Affinity (773-324-0377) or FAX: 301-559-5239/PHONE: 202-452-7440; or send inquiries to FireandInk@aol.com

The conference is at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) in the Chicago Circle Center, 750 S. Halsted.

CONFERENCE Highlights

Note: Individual events are subject to change.

Thursday, Sept. 19, 2002

ALL DAY REGISTRATION

7-9 p.m.: Welcome event and performances
(free to attendees; \$5-\$10)

— For the People: A Salute to the late June Jordan
— About Face Youth Theatre
— A Real Read
— Adodi Muse

10 p.m.-until: Fire & Ink Party I

Friday, Sept. 20, 2002

THE BUSINESS OF WRITING

8:30-9 a.m.: Conference

2:30-3 p.m.: Break
3-6 p.m.: workshops and panels
6-7 p.m.: Keynote reception
7-9 p.m.: Keynote address
Featuring readings by Abigail Sewell and R. Erica Doyle, staged reading of Michelle Parkerson's latest work, and keynote by Thomas Glave
(free to attendees; \$10-\$15 public)
10 p.m.-until: F&I Party III

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2002

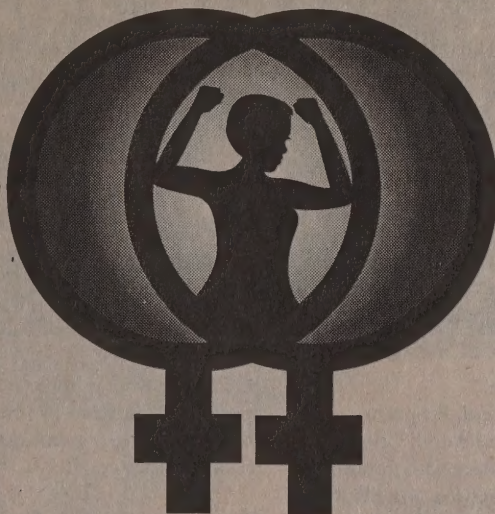
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

8-9:30 a.m.: Interfaith service
10 a.m.-noon: Concurrent panels and workshops
12:30-2 p.m.: Closing, and where do we go from here?

Glave photo © Sylvia Plachy
Bashir photo © Dorothy Harris
Carter photo © Lisa C. Moore
Harris photo © Steven Weiner
Moore photo © K. Shakira
Washington
Bridgforth photo on cover © Bret Brookshire

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ADODI Chicago Midwest, Inc. Annual Summer Retreat gets Warm Reception

Adodi Chicago Midwest, Inc., an SGL men's organization of African descent, served as the host to the 16th National Adodi Summer Retreat held at University Plaza in DekKalb, Illinois.

This four-day event, "CHOSEN (Embracing and Celebrating our Calling), ended Aug. 11. The program included Workshops, Indoor and Outdoor sports activities, Talent Sharing, Skills building, and Discussion sessions. Some of the Workshops featured included, "Conversations with God," "Building a Healthy Black Gay Identity," "Your Body, My Body, Everybody," "Tarot: A Spiritual Tool for the Development of Intuitive Powers," "Reiki Sessions," "HIV/AIDS: 20 years after the fact," "Creative Art," "The Man in the Mirror lost somewhere in Alice's Looking Glass," "First Time Home Buyers," "The Clobber Scriptures," "Leather 101 (Intro to the Leather Lifestyle)," "Sexual Honesty," "Empowerment through basic Massage Techniques," "The Art of Forgiveness," "The Politics of Recreational Sex in the SGL Community," and "Chosen via



At the Adodi Retreat.

Cyberspace."

Victor Pond, Program Chairman of Adodi Chicago Midwest, along with committee members helped provide a wide array of topics that encompassed contemporary issues of concern to the SGL community.

One of the many highlights of the event was a skit called the "Limpest Wrist" hosted by Borris Powell—an interactive spoof on the acclaimed TV show the *The Weakest Link*.

Adodi Chicago's President Ken McCane states that this year's event focused on building deeper connections across all age groups and the various communities across the country. The age range of the attendees spanned from 20-82 years, which consisted more than 150 people. Ken states that this Annual Retreat was well received and is growing more

popular each year, due to its spiritual nature and its focus on building stronger relationships among SGL men.

New President for the Literary Exchange

The Literary Exchange (LE) is pleased to announce the appointment of Sharron D. Matthews as the new President of the Board of Directors. Founded in 1985, the Literary Exchange is a nonprofit 501©-3 volunteer organization established for the purpose and with the mission of promoting literacy and the literature and performing arts of women of color, particularly African-Americans.

Over the years, LE has conducted monthly book discussions, receptions and book signings for women of color authors, sponsored theater nights of African-American focused plays, and essay contests for aspiring young writers. The organization was the first to sponsor "ConFests," a combination of conferences and festivals targeting women of color in the Chicago Metropolitan area. LE also pioneered "Black Herstory," a series of performing art productions in celebration of Black History Month, "Poetry in Motion," local boat cruises with literary and musical entertainment, and the "Women's International Dance" held in March as part of Women's History Month. LE publishes its own literary magazine and anthologies of works by women of color.

In collaboration with other organizations, LE has conducted women health fairs, self-help

and literacy programs for women incarcerated in Cook County Jail, and brought acclaimed writer Alice Walker to Chicago to discuss her film and book on female genital mutilation. In addition to membership and individual donations, the Exchange is supported by the Chicago Foundation for Women, Illinois Arts Council, WPWR-TV Channel 50, the Astraea Foundation, and the Chicago Dept. of Health.

Matthews has been an active supporter of LE since its inception as one of its original founders. Sharron holds a Master of Public Administration degree from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, is a policy analyst, and the recipient of several awards for her many years of work in public policy and human-rights advocacy.

When asked about the organization's future activities, Sharron responded, "I am very honored and excited to join the leadership team of this wonderful organization. We are looking forward to continuing and expanding our focus, programming and services. LE is planning to add such activities as 'Have Book Will Travel' (group trips for members and friends), town hall meetings focused on women of color issues, and online book reviews and discussions on our Web site."

"LE will continue to promote and celebrate the written words, the verbalized thoughts, and the performed art of women of color primarily in Chicago but also from other countries to add that international flavor," she said.

Up next month

We have promised to feature some of Chicago's Black men and women who not only have interesting jobs, but also say they "love it." So far, we've talked with Satu, Orlando and Yaa—firstm a businessman and developer of an amazing non-profit organization for young people; second, a co-owner of a Rogers Park cafe that promotes positive music and spoken word events; and third, an epidemiologist who shares her information about HIV/AIDS with an Afrocentric twist.

Their photos and stories will be featured next month. But what about you? We'd love to see if you'd be a good addition to our "It's My Job and I Love It," feature for next month.

Finally, because religion plays such a significant role in the lives of African Americans, BLACKlines will soon highlight the activities of different places of religion in the Chicago area. Where do you worship? Is your church/mosque/synagogue a place that welcomes the LGBT community? Let us hear from you.

Contact me at dkmcneir@yahoo.com or call me at (773) 871-7610, ext. 37. Maybe you or your place of worship will be included in the next issue of BLACKlines.

WHAT KALETRA HAS TO OFFER MAY SURPRISE YOU



ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT
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FOR THE TREATMENT OF HIV

KALETRA is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection in combination with other antiretroviral agents in patients 6 months of age or older. KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing of HIV to others.

Safety Information

KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA or any of its ingredients.

KALETRA must not be taken with certain drugs due to the potential for serious and/or life-threatening side effects. Discuss all medicines, including those without a prescription and herbal preparations, you are taking or plan to take with your doctor or pharmacist.

Pancreatitis and liver problems, which may cause death, have

been reported in patients receiving KALETRA. Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver disease such as hepatitis.

Your doctor may want to monitor your liver function. In patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving antiretroviral therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol.

The most commonly reported side effects of moderate or severe intensity are: abnormal bowel movements, diarrhea, feeling weak or tired, headache, and nausea. Children most often reported diarrhea, rash, taste aversion, and vomiting.

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol.

www.kaletra.com

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

KALETRA™ (lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules (lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with KALETRA. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Patient Information

KALETRA™ (kuh-LEE-tra)

Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir
(lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large

amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA:

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA.
 - Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
 - Halcion® (triazolam)
 - Hismanal® (astemizole)
 - Orap® (pimozide)
 - Propulsid® (cisapride)
 - Rhythmol® (propafenone)
 - Seldane® (terfenadine)
 - Tambocor™ (flecainide)
 - Versed® (midazolam)

- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.

- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.

- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.

- A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:
 - Phenobarbital
 - Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
 - Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

- Other Special Considerations:
 - KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA: Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.

- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that

are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.

- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.

- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.

- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.

- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.

- Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.

- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant: The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.

- If you are breast-feeding: Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.

- If you have liver problems: If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.

- If you have diabetes: Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.

- If you have hemophilia: Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.

- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.

- Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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J.C. Carter and Daniel featured at MOIP event

By D. Kevin McNeir

Given the recent surge in popularity at Chicago's bathhouses, and the growing number of online invitations for summer orgies—"accented" by the very viable option of bareback sexual experiences, it seems that discussions of "safe sex" have taken a backseat to Russian "sexual" roulette.

But as the incidence rate of HIV/AIDS continues to rise at alarming proportions in African-American and Latino communities, some organizations like Minority Outreach Intervention Project (MOIP) are looking for more creative ways to engage the public on the importance of practicing "safe sex."

On Wednesday, July 31, MOIP hosted its second annual community forum, "A Discussion on AIDS," with two former porn stars, J.C. Carter and Daniel, as the featured speakers. MOIP first hosted the event last year, correctly guessing that the men to whom they provide services, while not necessarily interested in talking about AIDS and "safe sex," would certainly be drawn to an event where such incredible hunks like Carter and Daniel were on hand.

"We were actually contacted by J.C. [Carter] and Daniel, who both want to give back to the community in the form of education," said Brandon Armani, executive director. "The forum gives us the opportunity to draw attention to HIV/AIDS by using the visibility of two former porn stars—men that a lot of our clients have seen in videos."

But why feature two men that at one time supported themselves by engaging in sexual intercourse with a plethora of eligible men? And isn't the porn industry, by its clearly controversial nature, the wrong

vehicle to use in a discussion about "safe sex?"

Not according to Carter.

"Everything that people see in the porn flicks aren't always reality," said the 40-year-old former porn star, a real favorite who, during his two years in the industry, starred in 35 videos. "There's a great deal of smoke and mirrors—but don't get me wrong. Some of it is real."

Carter, who retired from filmmaking just over two years ago, is an African-American Chicago native, the oldest of five children and the father of two sons. And he looks just as good as he did when he was leading many men's fantasies as a highly sought after star in the pornographic film industry.

"It [making films] was always, and only, a professional move," he said. "And when I thought about the money, it was never difficult to get myself motivated. Often we would meet with the other actors before actually filming—sometimes we'd touch or play around. The key was to see if there was any chemistry. And if there wasn't, the directors would switch the scenes around."

Carter adds that he was never forced to do a scene with anyone with whom he felt uncomfortable. And sometimes, actors would come with signs that they were infected with the HIV virus.

"They might look like they were sick or have a bag full of meds, and then you knew what the deal was," he said. "But unlike those who are in the heterosexual porn movies, in gay porn, it isn't even required that you be tested."

Carter spoke to the 15 men assembled at this year's forum, after answering the predictable questions about the porn film industry, by emphasizing that many actors use condoms and try to be "as safe as possible."

The discussion moved to mutually beneficial acts that are safe, like water sports, masturbation and, of course, the use of condoms. But Daniel emphasized that his time in the industry was much shorter than Carter's, primarily because of the heavy use of illegal drugs.

"Many men got into the industry because of the easy access to drugs," Daniel [which is his stage name] said. "Being a porn star got you on the 'A' list with invitations to all of the circuit parties. But I was in it to make money for school. I had a goal—but that's not the case for a lot of the actors. Your fans would often expect you to act a certain way—to do the drugs and attend the orgies. So for me, the safest thing to do was to avoid the social scene associated with the acting all together."

Daniel, 31, was born in Puerto Rico and made three films in his short career, often finding himself typecast as a white male. He says being a porn star was like living a fantasy, but for some it comes very close to reality—a potentially life-threatening reality.

The smaller number of men who attended this year's forum disappointed neither Daniel nor Carter. In fact, they said as long as just one or two interested men came out, they would continue to participate in the annual discussion.

"Some of the newer video companies are offering up to \$10,000 for four hours of work, but barebacking is required," Daniel said. "And both the producers and a lot of the actors don't seem too concerned about HIV or other STD's. But as younger actors come on the scene, they need to know they do have options. Unfortunately, you can make a lot more money by being willing to risk your health and your life."

Besides the engaging question-and-answer period led by Carter and Daniel, the program participants played a version of the popular game show, Jeopardy, with questions about HIV/AIDS—how one can contract the infection and how to

protect oneself. Several videos were also shown after which the two stars talked about how one could recreate some of the onscreen positions with safer-sex as a prerequisite for sexual activity.

Ted Taylor, an outreach service worker at MOIP, served as the program planner and said that despite this year's smaller numbers, he, like Daniel and Carter, was still satisfied with the results.

"Having the smaller numbers this year made the discussion much more intimate," he said. "And the participants were able to ask much more personal questions. Sometimes numbers alone don't speak to the success of a program. Everyone who attended appeared to be very engaged with the presenters. We all interacted quite well and I think everyone who attended heard something valuable."

SOUTH AFRICAN COURT GRANTS SPOUSAL RIGHTS

A full bench of South Africa's Constitutional Court ruled July 25 that gay couples must receive the same workplace benefits as married couples.

The ruling, which came in a case filed by a lesbian judge whose partner was denied spousal benefits, cited the nation's Constitution, which bans all discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Another lawsuit is pending that activists predict will open up ordinary marriage to South African same-sex couples.

The only country where gay couples can marry under the exact same laws as opposite-sex couples is The Netherlands, though several nations, mostly in Western Europe, have gay-partnership laws that grant registered same-sex couples up to 99 percent of the rights and obligations of marriage.

— Rex Wockner

SEPTEMBER SOUL

by Gregg Shapiro

Soul divas such as Alicia Keys, Angie Stone, Mary J. Blige and Jill Scott better watch their backs. A whole new generation of male R&B and soul-singers are jockeying for position and dominance. Not surprisingly, Raphael Saadiq is the best of the bunch. His long-awaited solo disc *Instant Vintage* (Universal) comes after Saadiq's involvement in soul groups such as the all-male Tony Toni Tone' and the short-lived Lucy Pearl (with Dawn Robinson, formerly of En

becoming Saadiq's gospel-influenced musical explanation of the album's title.

At around the same time that Saadiq's Tony Toni Tone' incarnation was making noise on the charts, another trio Bell Biv DeVoe (Ricky Bell, Michael Bivins and Ronnie DeVoe, the three remaining original members of New Edition) were also shaking things up a bit. The Best of Bell Biv DeVoe: The Millennium Collection (MCA) assembles a dozen tracks, including chart-toppers such as "Poison," "Do Me!," and "B.B.D. (I Thought It Was Me)," among others.

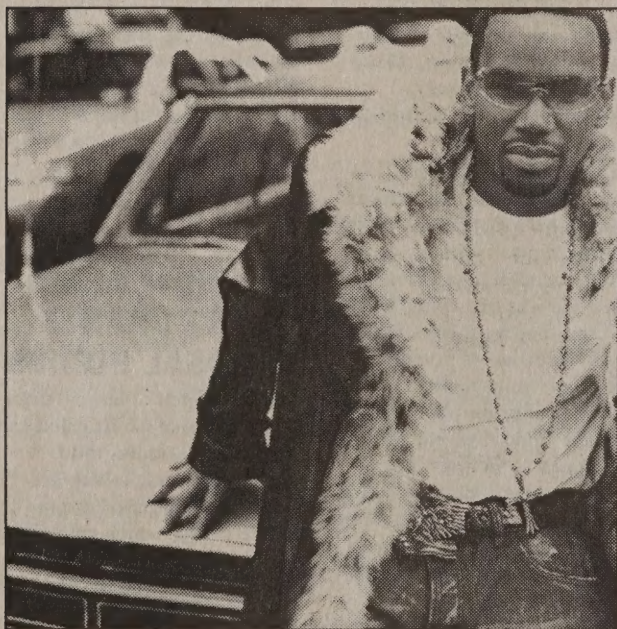
All-male soul groups pre-date Tony Toni Tone' and Bell Biv DeVoe by several years, and probably reached their peak in the '60s

from his album *Life Goes On* (Arista/Untouchables), Donell Jones sounds like Michael Jackson might sound had he not spiraled out of control. Avant, on the other hand, suggests bad boy Bobby Brown on the song "Makin' Good Love" from his album *Ecstasy* (MCA), while Glenn Lewis recalls early '70s Stevie Wonder on the song "Don't You Forget It" from his album *World Outside My Window* (Epic).

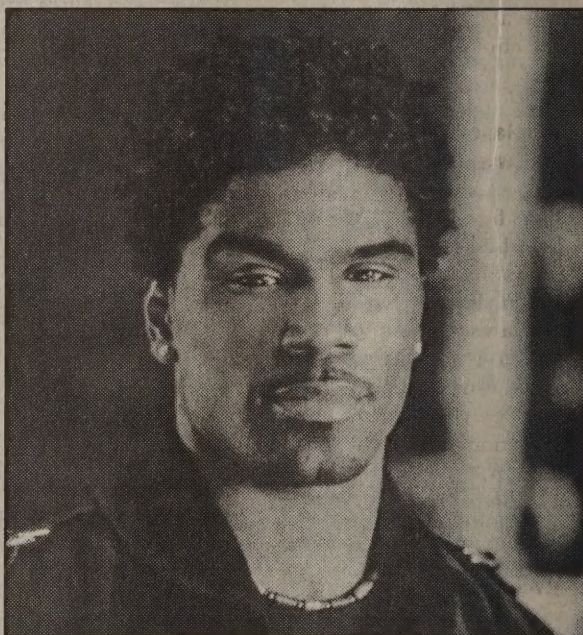
Young (23 years old), Canadian, "blue-eyed soul" man Remy Shand isn't the first white male to record for legendary soul label Motown. Openly gay Sam Harris, who was discovered on Star Search and propelled into the limelight with his over-the-top rendition of "Over The Rainbow," released his first

the biggest disappointment. I was expecting so much from following all the acclaim he received for his previous album, and Jusliens made me want to "just turn it off."

The influence of George Clinton and his Parliament/ Funkadelic gang is so far-reaching, that it's easy to forget how influential they were to their own contemporaries. *Anthology* (Mercury), a two disc set of 30 tracks by New York-based funksters Cameo is a good illustration. Spanning an 11-year period, you can hear Clinton and company's influence on early Cameo tracks before Larry Blackmon and his group refined their sound on such signature tunes as "Single Life," "Word Up," "Candy," "Back and Forth," and "Skin I'm In."



Avant (left) and Glenn Lewis.



Vogue). Saadiq brings his distinctive and soulful voice to the fore, making it the focus, as it deserves to be, at turns romantic, instructive, empowering, and spirited. Saadiq, who calls his sound "gospel-delic," pays homage to his forebears with a nod to Prince on "Be Here" and "OPH," a bow to Stevie Wonder on "Still Ray," and shout out to Al Green on "Tick Tock," without ever compromising his own artistic vision.

Aforementioned soul diva Stone contributes vocals to the musical dialogue "Excuse Me." The album's epic closer, "Skyy, Can You Feel Me," is a rhythmic and romantic duet with Rosie Kaye, shifts gears a few times, at one point

and '70s with Motown legends The Temptations, The Four Tops and Smokey Robinson and the Miracles. B2K hopes to continue the tradition with their self-titled disc (Epic). Suggestive, but clean, teen lyrics (all four members are well under 18) and pleasant harmonies ("Why I Love You"), set this vocal quartet apart.

The current stable of male soul singers must contend with constant comparison to those who came before them. Whether it's Marvin Gaye or Michael Jackson, Luther Vandross or D'Angelo, for artists such as Donell Jones and Glenn Lewis, the comparisons are inevitable. For example, on the song "You Know That I Love You,"

two albums on Motown. Like Jay Kay of Jamiroquai, Shand calls on many influences from the soul songbook and the results are part "Quiet Storm," part "Let's Get It On." Highlights include "The Second One," "Take A Message," "Rocksteady," and "Liberate."

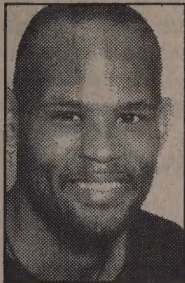
Jonathan Butler's combined vocal and guitar-playing skills had people calling him the next George Benson. With *Surrender* (Warner Brothers), Butler has returned with a heavily gospel-influenced disc of instrumentals and praise-heavy songs, his first in a few years.

Of all the recent releases by male neo-soul artists, Jusliens (Def Soul/Mama's Boy) by Musiq was

Clinton wasn't the only Midwesterner (Detroit) to feel the funk. The multi-member Ohio Players also funk it up. *Funk On Fire: The Mercury Anthology* (Mercury) is a comprehensive double-disc two dozen track compilation featuring their most memorable (and lengthy) '70s smashes, including "Skin Tight," "Fire," "Fopp," "Sweet Sticky Thing," "Who'd She Co?", and the mythical "Love Rollercoaster." You will also find rarities and live tracks in this collection, and the CD booklet has the group's notoriously graphic and erotic album covers.

Underground Techniques

DJ Harry T



Often I have been complimented on the music I spin and asked where do I find various songs or CD

compilations. I have taken the time to provide in this issue a list of my favorite sites for great dance music and some choice selections for CD's.

Naked Music NYC (www.astralwerks.com/naked)

I was first turned onto this label when I picked up "Always" by Lisa Shaw, the first female artist for Naked. Afterwards, other releases began to come out by Petal Pusher, Blue Six and Aqua Note. Soon the world would know about their sexy, soulful sound, not to mention beautiful displays of women in eye-catching silhouettes that adorned each release.

Recommended listening: Bare Essentials Vol. I, Blue Six - Beautiful Tomorrow, Nude Dimensions Vol. I

OM Records (www.om-records.com)

An awesome San Francisco label, which began in 1995, building a foundation on future music, continues to make an impression in underground dance music. A roster of artists which includes Andy Caldwell, Soulstice, Kaskade & Chicago's own Mark Grant, various compilations such as Mushroom Jazz, Colourforms and their newest venture, Deep Concentration Recordings, focusing on hip-

hop. (Their first release is MASPYKE from Boston)

Recommended listening: OM_100: A Celebration on the 100th release, OM Lounge 3, Mark Farina - Connect, People Under The Stairs - O.S.T.

Hed Kandi (www.hedkandi.com)

Remarkable label bringing together known and unknown dance music, down-tempo chillout beats and obscure, rare, funky tracks in a deliciously styled fashion. Launching additional compilations in the same tradition such as Stereo Sushi, Base Ibiza and The Acid Lounge.

Recommended listening: Disco Kandi 1-5, Beach House 1-3, Serve Chilled 1-3

Defected Records (www.defected-community.co.uk)

This UK label has released some very impressive music, artist albums and compilations. They have picked up singles for re-release from other labels and carries a strong roster of impeccable talent, which include Julie McKnight, Kathy Brown and Roger Sanchez.

Recommended listening: Def Com 1&2, Ritmo Latino, Soulful Sessions: Mixed by Jazz-n-Groove

Wave Music (www.wavemusic.com)

This NYC label started in 1995, created by longtime producer /remixer, Francois K. Releasing cutting-edge dance tunes that have become timeless classics that don't quite fit the norm of what people expect, infusing eclectic and varied music talents from an 'indie' label. Creating its sister labels such as StreetWave, Wave Classics and Clicktracks and distributing imprints such as Chez Music, Bombay Records and

Tribal Winds.

Recommended listening: Body & Soul Vol. 1-4, Bossa Mundo ...When Brazil Meets The World, Deep and Sexy-mixed by Francois K

King Street Sounds (www.kingstreetsounds.com)

Founded in 1993 to create soulful-spiritual house music, King Street is on the cusp of dance music.

Influenced by sounds such as future soul, Nu jazz, deep progressive house and Afro-abstract excursions, it remains one of the few independent labels on the market. Like many other labels, its sister, Nite Grooves captures a deeper, cutting edge sound which have seen releases by Cevin Fisher, Masters At Work, DJ Pierre, Kerri Chandler and Chicago's own Ralphie Rosario.

Recommended listening: Mix The Vibe: Danny Krivit, DJ Spinna & Frankie Feliciano, Abstract Latin Lounge 1&2, Abstract Jazz Lounge 1-3

CD Profile

King Kooba - Indian Summer (OM Records)

After my first listen to this CD between home and work, I can't keep it out of rotation, along with my other tunes.

This is one of those releases you can take just about anywhere and the vibe is more tightly woven than your grandmother's afghan.

Picture chilling out in the park just where the sun sets and night falls in the afternoon, relaxing with a glass of your favorite wine and the air is filled with the acid jazz sound of "Honey Locust" peeping out your groove box.

As the night goes on, your ears are seduced and hypnotized to the soulfulness of Nomvula Malinga as she explains why she's "Losing You" and in a break-beat style defines why she "Want Your Love."

With deep roots in jazz and soul, Charlie Tate And Matt "DJ Shuff" Harris have been producing together since 1995. Playing bass with The Big Cheese All-Stars and Neneh Cherry, Tate's musical background includes touring in support of Roy Ayers and James Brown. DJ Shuff has held residency throughout the UK spinning a mix of drum and bass, funk and hip-hop. Highlights of the album include the title track, featuring Soulstice's Gina Rene, "Barefoot," featuring UK hip-hop superstar, Roots Manuva, "You Don't Know," featuring Cleo Bartlett and "Salutation," which was also featured on OM-100.

DJ Harry T Playlist

Superwoman - GTS ft. Karyn White
The Anthem - Househeadz
I Can't Believe I Loved Her - Peven Everett
Diamond Life - Julie McKnight
Sunshine - Linda Clifford
From Dusk 'Til Dawn - Lexcion Avenue
After 2 - Pete Moss ft. Terra Deva
Sexuality - Home & Garden ft. Colette
Balearic - Africanism
Nowhere - Aquanote
This Time - Q-Burns Abstract Message ft. Lisa Shaw
That Sound - Rosabel
Indian Summer - King Kooba ft. Gina Rene

Black in Chicago March for Reparations Draws Thousands to Nation's Capital

By D. Kevin McNeir

A monthly feature exploring the lives, challenges and success stories of Chicago's African-American community, starting with the premise that before we were straight or gay, we were Black.

Neither the word reparations nor the act itself—obtaining restitution from governments and corporations for historical wrongs—are new concepts in world history. But on Saturday, Aug. 17, an estimated 50,000 African Americans gathered on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. for a reparations mass rally—exercising their First Amendment rights.

But this time, after observing reparations won by various ethnic groups and nations worldwide, Blacks are saying, "It's our turn."

Some readers might question the relevancy of a discussion on reparations. After all, many Blacks in Chicago are facing more immediate issues—an increasing disparity in income levels between Blacks and whites, identifying public schools that are safe and provide quality education for their children, or gaining access to more equitable employment and housing opportunities.

For those who seek sanity, salvation and security while living as a member of the Black LGBT community, reparations may be the kind of issue that remains on the bottom of their list of priorities. But should it?

Certainly there is no question that reparations are owed to African people from those who participated in one of the most heinous of all crimes against humanity—the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade and slavery. And now, as the movement for reparations for African people moves from the margins to the center of public debate, African Americans have taken the lead in demanding vindication for crimes committed against their ancestors that many

say continue to be committed today.

Leaders in the reparations movement

One of the leaders in this movement is Dr. Conrad W. Worrill, national chairman, National Black United Fund, based here in the Chicago area. Currently he serves as coordinator and professor of Inner City Studies Education in the department of educational leadership and development at Northeastern Illinois University. For the past 30 years he has combined his skills as a scholar and activist, participating in local, national and international issues affecting African people.

acres and a mule]? Worrill asks.

In attempting to answer his own question, he says, "given our government's past actions, it is doubtful that Blacks will ever receive compensation for the atrocities suffered during the slave trade, as well as those violations of human rights that followed. But in taking a page from others, like the Jewish people, we must continue this movement and make sure that our people and others never forget."

But is that all that supporters of the reparations movement seek? What about the lives that were destroyed and the millions of dollars made by the U.S. government and a variety of private institutions and corporations

these acts of self-destruction among our own people, we must also be about supporting Black businesses and products. Both acts need to occur simultaneously."

So what's the point of marching on Washington? Many Black leaders, like Worrill, say the movement has progressed to at least the grassroots level, which means different strategies must be employed.

"Now the task is to invite more people across the country and the globe to participate. We met on the birthday of Marcus Garvey because in the history of the 20th century, he assembled the largest Black-based movement focused on the principle of Africans doing for themselves—taking charge of their own lives and destinies."

Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., has been the leading political advocate for reparations, sponsoring legislation now referred to as HR Bill 40, which calls for an extensive study of reparations.

"We are here today to encourage African Americans and to influence the most powerful nation in the world to step up to the plate," he said. "America has paid reparations to Japanese women used as sex slaves, to Russia, Japanese-Americans, Canada, Eskimos and Native Americans. Now it's time for us."

Chicago Tribune columnist Salim Muwakkil observed in a recent column, that the idea of reparations has caught on "big time," with political efforts to pass pro-reparation resolutions popping up in city council chambers in Midwest cities like Detroit, Cleveland and Chicago to western hotspots like Los Angeles and Oakland.

"Varied efforts show that the reparations movement has taken hold in the Black community," he writes. "[But] there are also some signs that support may be picking up within the American mainstream. One indication of that growing support was an extraordinary, two-part editorial in the Philadelphia Inquirer supporting reparations that was published last year."

Chicago Ald. Dorothy Tillman (3rd) has also emerged as a leader spearheading the call for



Reparations March pics by Sherri Jackson

In addition, Worrill is an elected economic development commissioner of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA). It was partly through his efforts in Durban, South Africa early last fall during the United Nations World Conference Against Racism (WCAR) that the WCAR declared "slavery and the slave trade are a crime against humanity and should have been so, especially the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade and are among the major sources and manifestations of racism."

But admitting one's wrong doings is only part of what leaders in the reparations movement are demanding. "Do Black people need repair and if so, are African-American people owed something as promised by the U.S. government but never received [referring to the post Civil War promise made to all former slaves of 40

who all benefited from the more than 400 years of free slave labor from African people in this country? And how can one put a dollar amount on work that was done without wages or on the many lives lost?

These are the kinds of questions that confound people in America, transforming conversations about reparations from a quiet whisper on the margins of our society to a highly political debate.

"We [African Americans] can ill afford to wait for whites to heal us," Worrill said. "We as a people have to repair ourselves. Those who remain conscious among us must curve such problems as drug addiction and Black-on-Black crime that stand on the verge of destroying us. Because of both problems we are becoming the majority residents in our country's prison industrial complex. But while we are putting an end to

reparations. And as the chairman of the National Reparations Convention Committee, she has had many opportunities to emphasize why reparations remains such an important topic to Black people today, and to those who will follow in generations to come.

"While legal slavery has been abolished in this country, it is still a source of extreme controversy when the subject of reparations is mentioned," she said while giving remarks at a recent luncheon for the National Summit on Africa. "For other ethnic groups who have been oppressed or had their freedom taken away, there have been efforts to restore their dignity and make them whole again through some form of reparations. And the U.S. has aggressively promoted and supported these initiatives—but not for Black Americans. The only form of reparation we've ever received was affirmative action ... Make no mistake about it—America is the strongest, wealthiest nation in the world because of the free labor provided by Black people. That's why we support Congressman John Conyers' [HR Bill 40] and other viable reparations initiatives. The only discussion we should be in engaged in about reparation is when will the payback begin?"

In a Chicago appearance earlier this year, Randall Robinson, author of the bestseller *The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks*, said, "Acknowledging the nation's debt to African Americans for slavery and a subsequent century of discrimination will help heal the country's existing racial divide. We cannot have racial reconciliation until we make the victims of this injustice whole."

Worrill adds that strong support by African Americans in the quest for reparations is important right now, particularly as leaders of our government try to draw our attention to the tragedies of Sept. 11 and look to escalate actions of retaliation.

"From the first call for reparations by Callie House in 1876 when she organized the National Ex-Slave and Bounty Society, African people here in the U.S. have been seeking justice," he said. "Contributions to the movement have been made by Marcus Garvey, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad and Malcolm X to current efforts led by N'COBRA, the December 12th Movement, Dorothy Tillman, John Conyers and Randall Robinson. This movement has moved from the realm of ideas pushed by a handful of intellectuals and activists to the masses."

Black Americans are saying it's our turn now. And many scholars remind the world of past reparations made to other ethnic groups:

- 1952 Germany \$822 million to Holocaust survivors
 - 1971 USA \$1.4 billion + 44 million acres to Alaska natives
 - 1985 USA \$12.3 million to Seminoles of Florida
 - 1988 Canada \$230 million to Japanese-Canadians
 - 1988 Canada 250,000 square miles of land to Indians and Eskimos
 - 1990 Austria \$2.5 million to Holocaust survivors
 - 1990 USA \$1.2 billion to Japanese-Americans interned WWII
- [Equating to approximately \$20,000/each]

"Black Americans must unite on the principles of America—justice and freedom," said the Honorable Louis Farrakhan, Nation of Islam. "And those who are in attendance represent millions more who could come or did not know about this event."

According to Bev Smith, popular radio talk show host, who served as one of the masters of ceremonies for the day, there were several attempts made by those who oppose reparations to make sure the march never took place. "First they said it would never take place—that it couldn't be done," she said. "Then folks started to forecast rain so that people wouldn't come. And then, the organizers were given the runaround in their efforts to secure permits."

Farrakhan added that property, not money, is what Black Americans need to seek as they demand reparations. "We can't settle for a token," he said. "We need acres of land so we can build and do for ourselves. We're not begging or asking—we're demanding. It's payment for 310 years of chattel slavery—for being robbed of our culture, language, families and dignity."

And, with the opportunity to speak on current policies coming out of the White House, Farrakhan added, "Blacks have fought in every war

in America and we still don't have equal rights. Our fight should not be with Iraq, but in America as we face an uphill battle against recalcitrant white supremacy."

Word on the street—sisters and brothers "from the hood"

In an impromptu session in a Rogers Park cafe (Cocoabean Expressions), people talked frankly about their views on reparations.

"I have been hearing a lot of sound bytes for the past five years about reparations but recently I have wanted to know more," said Maurice Chancellor, a 32-year-old gay African American. "Until recently it's been hard to get much information. Watching the coverage of the march on C-SPAN really amazed me—I never realized there were so many grassroots organizations involved. But we need more people to become proactive and rally around the whole notion of reparations."

"White America reaped the benefits of slave labor—our ancestors. Sure they owe us. But I think if we expect to see financial payment, we're going to have to be willing to make our demands heard for a long time. I hear whites say that Blacks are doing so well now that reparations are unnecessary. But the folks they're talking about—Oprah [Winfrey] and Michael [Jordan]—and people like them, make up a very small percentage."

Betty Gaskins, a well-known photographer and community activist, said she doesn't want a check. She wants changes in the policies and philosophies of American businesses and educational institutions.

"Reparations should be our way of finally receiving what this country has always promised—equal opportunity for all people," she said. "We need access to institutions so we can take advantage of all of the benefits this country offers white Americans. Hillary Clinton on the Oprah Winfrey Show recently shared one belief that is certainly unfounded. She said reparations are unnecessary because we have already benefited by affirmative action and that Black Americans have received 95 percent of the benefits provided by social programs. But that just isn't true. White women, it's shown, benefited more from affirmative action than any other group. Blacks have to study their history and we have to demand that we be compensated just like so many other ethnic groups who were deliberately mistreated by the U.S."

Sherri Jackson of Chicago attended the March for Reparations and while she did not reveal her age [I know, but I won't tell], she did say she's a "proud lesbian sistah." She believes reparations should be important to all Blacks—whether they are straight or gay.

"I found the rally to be very uplifting and needed," she said. "The crowd was mixed in age—from babies to folks over 80. But the thing that hit me the most were the conversations that were taking place among the crowd. Those present who had actually participated in the civil-rights movement said reparations were way overdue. I listened to them carefully because I have benefited from their efforts and sacrifices—in fact society is better for all people because of them."

"For the generation of today, the Hip-Hop generation, they believe they can do anything they put their minds to. But they are also a generation caught up in materialism. Still, there are some strong young people who are leading their peers today and will be great leaders of our communities in the future. However, they need role models—including those of us in the LGBT community. ... I saw these kinds of people at the march—some who are folks from the LGBT community that went with me from Chicago. And what we have to remember is we our more than just our sexual orientation. When we look outside the box, maybe we'll begin to realize why reparations are so important to Blacks. Reparations means improving things like education and healthcare. And let's not forget—other people of color have demanded and received reparations for the injustices committed against their people—now, it's our turn."



Sherri at the March

King of Queens: Kevin Aviance

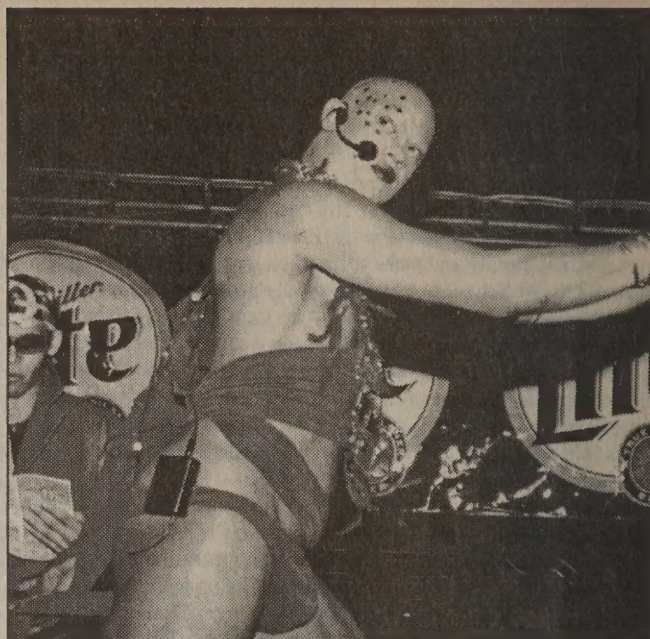
By Gregg Shapiro

Here is my favorite Kevin Aviance story. A few years ago, when I co-hosted the Friday night queer music show on LesBiGay Radio, I interviewed Kevin, whose album *Box of Chocolates* had just been released. The interview, which was done via telephone, live on the show, went off without a hitch, and my co-host, a lesbian with a bit of a Southern drawl, also asked Kevin some good and pointed questions. As we were thanking Kevin for being our guest on the show and saying goodbye to him, he thanked us in return, and then said, as his parting shot, "Stay cunt." This, of course, was in reference to his notorious dance club hit, but I think my co-host misunder-

stood, and said that she would do as he suggested. It was then that I turned to her, with our mics still on, and said, "Dear, I don't think he said, 'Stay country.'"

Gregg Shapiro: Your's is the first voice people hear in both the movie and on the soundtrack to the movie *Circuit*. How did it feel to be associated with both of those projects?

Kevin Aviance: To be honest with you, I didn't know the intensity of that project at all, because I had just signed with the label. They got the project right when I was signing to the label. When they were trying to find songs for the album, they said, "Do you want to do this intro for us?" I said I would do the intro and I went in and it was so much fun doing it, because I



Kevin Aviance at Market Days (above). Photo by Vern Hester

got to be me. It took me back to when I was doing bitch tracks. I live for that whole "read-y," that attitude, and all that. I don't get to do that much anymore.

GS: On the subject of movies, have you done any acting work since *Flawless* (1999) and *Punks* (2000)?

KA: I have a new movie coming out on DVD this month called *Urban Massacre*. It's with all these up-and-coming hip-hop artists. I play a transgendered, psychic Jamaican named Miss Leo. I get killed in it.

GS: Oh, no!

KA: Some people might like it actually (laughs).

GS: How did it feel to die on-screen?

KA: I was kind of bad at that, but they fixed that all in the editing room.

GS: You recently had a No. 1 dance single on the *Billboard* charts with the song "Alive," which you co-wrote with Tony Moran and others. How did it feel to have yet another No. 1 dance single?

KA: Blessed. At the time, I was going through some bad

times with my last record label. For this song to come out of nowhere and for this whole group of people to cultivate this record and then Sept. 11 happened, I guess it's my message for the world. Then to get all the accolades for it, was amazing. Once again, it's a case of being in the right place at the right time and having the right song and the right message.

GS: I'm glad that you mentioned the new label, because you are currently working with Centaur Music and their *Emerge* label. Do you feel like you have a good working relationship with the folks at Centaur?

KA: I feel like they can hit my market, and that's what's been very important about the whole thing. With my last record label, we got to a market that wasn't directional. The fact of the matter is that my audience is predominantly gay. A lot of times it was hard for them to get the songs and the records unless they heard it in the stores and stuff. The Internet helped out a lot, but you still want to sell your product.

GS: The previous label had



no idea how to market it?

KA: They were basically a house label and they really didn't have a gay direction. They just did songs. When you're someone like me, you need to penetrate the audience. That's what Centaur did. They penetrated the audience and got my audience the music. We concentrated on them. The fact is that I can work for the rest of my life because my gay audience loves me. That's more than what most artists have, so I need to embrace that and enjoy that.

GS: I think the feeling is mutual there.

KA: It is.

GS: You have a new CD, called *Entity*, which is scheduled for release early next year. What can you tell me about it?

KA: With this album, I'm really taking a lot from our lifestyle as gay men, not trying to fit into a mold to where it goes pop. I have a story to tell. I've lost a lot of friends and I've been through a lot of drama. I've

also had a lot of fun. We lead glamorous lives. We're kings. Not many people get to act like that. Why can't I talk about it? Why can't I tell people about what I'm feeling? Why can't I tell my emotions, my drama, and my story, through music and through song? That's what music is for—to make it into a universal language for everyone to understand. As long as the beat's good and the melody is fine, the actual message will come later when they read the words.

GS: Are they all original songs on the album or will there be any covers?

KA: There is going to be one cover.

GS: What's the cover?

KA: I can't talk to you about it, darling. If you know me, you know the cover. That's all I have to say. There are three songs that I love performing, and this is one of those songs.

GS: What are you most looking forward to about being in Chicago? [He performed on the Addison Stage

at Market Days in August.]

KA: We totally redid the whole show because we've been on tour for the last three or four months, doing the same thing in every city. With the last five parties that I'm doing at the end of the tour, we've revamped everything—the costumes, added more dancers, changed all the music. I really want (it to be) uplifting. I don't want to go through any drama. To make sure that you're on, you have to make sure that you do the right songs. With the circuit people, you have to make sure and keep them up. They are not having anybody bring them down. I've learned that from this tour. In Chicago, I really want to make sure that I'm on, that I give it to them, and I want to hear them wanting more.

GS: I'm glad that you mentioned the tour. Did you get to go anywhere that you've never been before?

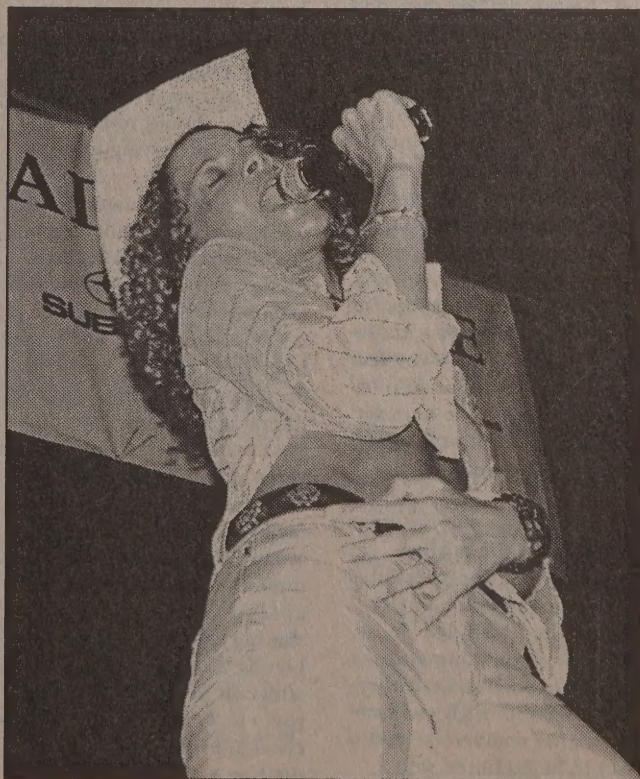
KA: I just got back from Tel Aviv. I've been there before, but I got to be there during the war. That was interesting.

I had a beautiful trip there. I go to Europe a lot, and to Japan. I travel extensively when it comes to foreign countries. I did California this time around. It's a whole other world over there.

GS: How do you feel about the demise of Wigstock?

KA: I don't think it should have ended. I really think they should have found a way to keep it. A lot of girls depended on that show to book themselves for the rest of the year. I think they could have maybe made it smaller, made it more of a closed in event. It is a New York staple. There's always a new queen and a new promoter and a new act and a new something. There's always somebody doing something new in this city; that's the beautiful thing about it. It might take two or three years or 10 years, but there's always going to be another queen waiting to give it to the kids to allow them to perform again. The girls will never stop working here, honey.

Billie Myers ("Kiss the Rain") also wowed the crowds, at the Windy City Radio Stage at Market Days. Photos by Tracy Baim



Purrfectly Speaking

by Anita Charlot

Self-preservation; knowing when enough is enough and when to say no.

Knowing when to say no can be the most difficult as well as the most liberating thing in the world. As lesbian and bisexual mothers, we have our hands full with day-to-day thoughts, concerns, responsibilities, unfulfilled wants, needs and desires. We constantly have to do things, say things, accept things in the workplace and even hide from who we really are for the sake of just plain 'ole existing.

We overcompensate in areas of friendship, relationships and even family, sometimes to mask our "unlovable/not feeling good enough" demons, or that feeling of "if I do this for her..." this will make her want to stay with us. Honey ... this never works to your benefit. You spend all of your energy in all the wrong places and then what do you think is left for you ... nothing! You shouldn't feel as though you have to buy someone's affection, love or admiration. If it doesn't come natural ... it's not for you.

There will come a point in your life where you will get tired of always doing for everyone else, being "everything" for others, donating your time, your energy, listening to your friends' troubles, volunteering for a worthy cause or a not-so-worthy cause because you feel that is what you should do or what you need to do in order to keep your family off of your back or that woman in your life.

It pains me to see our women putting up with negative, unwanted and disrespectful treatment and abuse of any kind—family included—because of not wanting to disappoint the family or they don't feel as though someone of a higher character would want to be bothered with a



woman with children. I have coached many lesbian and bisexual mothers that put up with women who were not actually worth the time of day, simply because they felt as though they had to "take what they could get." This is a huge travesty and the largest LIE I have ever lived first hand.

Let me explain something to you ... you are a queen in your own right. We are taught that our way of life is that of constant suffering and sacrifice. This is not so. You are worthy of so much more. You are the designer of your own destiny. You are worthy of a partner who will compliment your life instead of complicate it. Don't ever allow someone to make you feel as though they are doing you a favor by being with a woman with children ... they should realize that it is a privilege to be included. Yes there are challenges in dating a woman with children, but that in no way makes you second best. Nor should you do summersaults trying to prove yourself.

You deserve a partner who is just as much an adult as you are instead of behaving like one of your children; you want someone who is going to be a positive addition to your household, not negative. Your children should witness a positive interaction between you and your mate. They should witness you standing up for yourself and being honest about your feelings; not watching you behave one way and then listening to you complain in another. They should see the sharing of household responsibilities, a healthy exchange of affection between the two of you, etc. Our children will have enough to deal with outside of the home instead of having to

witness imbalance in our homes. They learn to value themselves, speak up for themselves, to get in touch with their feelings by watching you.

These are your angels. You owe it to them and to yourself first and foremost to be **TRUE TO YOURSELF!** You need to determine what you want in and out of a relationship and then have the inner strength to hold out, or cut someone off if they are not in line with your plan. I always say if they are not **ON** the way, they are **IN** the way ... your responsibility to yourself is to move them **OUT OF THE WAY**, if you want to actually **LIVE** instead of just exist.

I was once a people pleaser. I wanted **EVERYONE** to like me. I never wanted anyone to have anything negative to say about Anita. I loved hard, strong, and way past the "that's enough" point, trying to prove a point. As a result of me not being true to myself, I always felt like a victim. I felt that no one understood me. I was always the one giving. Why couldn't others sacrifice for my sake as I had done for theirs?

What I have learned the hard way is that you cannot truly blame someone else for not treating you the way you want to be treated. I now understand the statement of "No one can do anything to you unless you allow it." Your past girlfriends that mistreated you; made you pay for dinner all the time; never cleaned up after herself; stayed out all night; never paid her portion of the bills; continuously disrespected or cheated on you; and those that always put their ex-girlfriend's memory in your face are not responsible for your pain ... You are!

Think about it, if you had been true to yourself, believed and loved yourself enough to know that you were worthy of better treatment, would you have stayed so long? Would you have allowed her to continue to be a part of your life or your children's lives? Or would you have told her that as much as you care for or love her that

you love yourself more. Would you have allowed yourself to let her go, not knowing whether she would ever return, for the sake of your happiness?

As a life coach for lesbian and bisexual mothers, I found that there were so many commonalities between the mothers as well as the lesbian and bisexual women without children with respect to giving their personal power away to others that I decided to write *The Reality Series* ... This series of books will speak directly and truthfully about the reality of our lives as I see it. Spending countless hours with friends, clients and women in the workshops that I facilitate made it very clear to me that someone needed to speak candidly about these issues.

The first two volumes of this series are "The Reality ... Of Loving and Being Loved by A Lesbian or Bisexual Mother" and "The Reality ... Of Lesbian Dating." If you want to know more about the release date for these two books, a description of my first collection of poetry, "Poetic Growing Pains ... A Lesbian Mothers Collection of Energetic Expressions on Life and Love," or merchandise bearing the lesbian and bisexual mother logo, please see www.purrfectharmonyinc.com.

You can always contact me via the website with any comments, suggestions or questions that you may have. If there are specific topics that you would like to see addressed in this column please send me that information as well.

Well ladies, I think I have given you enough to think about for now.

Until next time ...

Be sure to check the website www.purrfectharmonyinc.com, it has undergone a major overhaul. Also, merchandise bearing the company logo is now presented on the site for purchase as well as the first book "Poetic Growing Pains" and the next two to follow, *The Reality ... of Loving and Being Loved by A Lesbian or Bisexual Mother* and *The Reality ... of Lesbian Dating*.

ARTS EXPRESS

***Gay/les/bi/queer/trans content or interest VVV = Latino/a interest
BBBB = Black interest

THEATER

Previews and Opening Nights

****Aug 30: **Rhinoceros Thr** Festival This 13th annual festival showcases new, fringe and experimental work by artists including Susan Nussbaum, Blair Thomas, Bryn Magnus, Curt Columbus, and many more, thru Oct 16. Lunar Cabaret, 2827 N Lincoln, and Prop Thr, 4225 N Lincoln, 773 327-6666

****Sept 1: **One Man Seen** Andy Eninger (of Second City and GayCo) takes an audience suggestion and creates a spontaneous one-act play every week, with imagined sets and costumes. Sun, 8 pm, thru Sept 29. \$8, WNEP Thr, 3209 N Halsted, 773 296-1100, www.fuzzycyco.com

Sept 4: **Vaudeville Underground** A variety show featuring performance artists, comedians, jugglers, and more, produced by aurorArts Productions. Tonight only, 7:30 pm. Glade Memorial Hall, 2500 N Talman, 773 782-9471, ext 2

****Sept 4: **Victory Gardens Free Season Preview Night** Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and scenes from four plays upcoming for the 2002-2003 season, including Claudia Allen's *Unspoken Prayers* and Joel Drake Johnson's *The End of the Tour*. Tonight only, 6 pm. 2257 N. Lincoln, please RSVP to Laura Wurz at 773 549-5788, ext 102 or lwurz@victorygardens.org

****Sept 13: **Bloodrut** Bloodrut banishes menstrual shame in a thunderous roar of drums, bodies and voices. Performed by Nicole Garneau and Big Smith Percussion Ensemble, Fri, 6 pm, Sat, 4 pm, Sun, 6 pm thru Sept 15. Chopin Thr Studio, 1543 W. Division, bigsmith@earthlink.net

BBBBOct 3: **A Soldier's Play** Chuck Smith directs Charles Fuller's drama about the murder of a black army sergeant in 1944 and the black commissioned officer who is sent to investigate the case. Presented by Congo Square Thr, thru Nov 10. Thr Building, 1225 W. Belmont, 773 327-5252, www.congosquaretheatre.org

****Oct 17: **Drinking and Writing** A look at writers who drink and drinkers who write, created by Sean Benjamin, Steven Mosqueda, and Diana Slickman, thru Nov 23. \$8-\$12. The Neo-Futurarium, 5153 N Ashland, 773 275-5255, www.neofuturists.org

In Performance

BBBBThe Bomb-Itty of Errors A hip hop version of Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*, with four actor/rappers and original music. Tues-Fri, 7:30 pm, Sat, 6 & 9 pm, Sun, 3 & 7:30 pm, thru Sept 1. \$28, Chgo Shakespeare Thr, 800 E. Grand, 312 595-5600, -www.chicagoshakes.com

****End of the World Party This Off-Broadway hit follows a group of men sharing a beach house on Fire Island. Thurs, 7:30 pm, Sat, 8:30 pm, Sun, 2:30 pm, thru Sept 8. \$20-\$30, 1229 W. Belmont, 773 883-1090

BBBBFive Rooms of Furniture Organic Thr presents this drama about an African-American family exorcising old family demons and coming to terms with how secrets from the past have shaped their present. Weds-Sat, 8 pm, Sun, 3 pm, thru Sept 15. \$20-\$30, Kathleen Mullady Thr, 1125 W Loyola, 773 561-5600, www.organictheater.com

****Gynecology Broad Comedy presents this original sketch comedy show—with a woman writer and an all-female cast—that takes a look at everything from feminine roles to feminine hygiene. Thurs, 10 pm, thru Sept 12. \$12, ComedySportz Thr, 2851 N. Halsted, 773 549-8080

****Holy War, Batman! or The Yellow Cab of Courage Second City e.t.c. presents its 23rd revue, in which a Chicago cab driver journeys through the landscape of an America changed

by tragedy, yet resolute in its utter confusion over how to react. Thurs, 8:30 pm, Fri-Sat, 8 & 11 pm, Sun, 8 pm, open run. \$17, 1608 N Wells, 312 337-3992, www.secondcity.com

Lab Rats Original short sketches and improv scenes from the Factory Thr, Sat, 10:30 pm, open run. \$7, Angel Island, 731 W Sheridan, 312 409-3247, www.factorytheater.com

****Late Nite Catechism Sister, the wisecracking, lovable nun created by Chicagoans Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan, rules over a traditional 1960s catechism classroom, tickling not only those who went thru parochial school but anyone ever taught by an authoritative figure. Royal George Thr, 1641 N Halsted, 312 988-9000, -www.latenitecatechism.com

****Marvin's Room Raven Thr presents Scott McPherson's delicate and humorous drama about tenuous family ties strained by illness. Thurs-Sat, 8 pm, Sun, 3 pm, thru Oct 13. \$12-\$24, 6157 N Clark, 773 338-2177

****Naked Boys Singing Eight men throw costumes and caution to the wind, in this acclaimed new musical that celebrates gratuitous nudity. Thurs-Fri, 8 pm, Sat 10 pm, Sun, 8 pm, thru Sept 29. \$30-\$35, Bailiwick Arts Ctr, 1229 W Belmont, 773 883-1090

****Pushed Intuitive Productions and the Playground Thr present this original sketch comedy written and performed by Jim Bennett and Celeste Pechous. Sat, 10:30 pm, thru Sept 14. \$8, 3341 N Lincoln, 773 791-3749, www.the-playground.com

****Southern Baptist Sissies A poignant coming of age story about growing up gay and Baptist in the Deep South. Weds, 7:30 pm, Fri, 7:30 pm, Sat, 5:30 pm, Sun, 7:30 pm, thru Sept 8. \$20-\$30, 1229 W. Belmont, 773 883-1090, www.bailiwick.org

****Star Crossed! Second City and Chgo Shakespeare team up on this musical spoof of *Romeo & Juliet*. Tues-Thurs, 7:30 pm, Fri-Sat, 7 & 9:30 pm, Sun, 2:30 pm, thru Sept 1. \$28, Chgo Shakespeare Thr on Navy Pier, 800 E Grand, 312 595-5600

****Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind 30 plays in 60 minutes is the goal of this long-running troupe, with new material each week. Fri-Sat, 11:30 pm, Sun, 7 pm. Doors open 30 minutes before show, open run. \$6-\$11. The Neo-Futurarium, 5153 N Ashland, 773 275-5255, www.neofuturists.org

****Trial by Jury Chicago Comic Opera Company features a nearly all gay cast and crew in this Gilbert & Sullivan production. Directed by Michael Kotze and conducted by Morry Matson, the show features members of Windy City Gay Chorus, pianist Michael Miller, and special grand diva bridesmaids, thru Sept 1. \$20, Thr Building, 1225 W. Belmont, 773 327-5252

****20 A new ensemble piece by Stephen Rader in which a group of Chicago gay men from different backgrounds were each asked the same 20 questions. Mon, 8 pm, Weds, 8 pm, Sat, 7 pm, Sun, 2:30 pm, thru Sept 8. \$20-\$25, 1229 W. Belmont, 773 883-1090

****Vagina Monologues The monologues continue, featuring an ever-changing cast of local and nationally-known actresses. Tues-Fri, 8 pm, Sat, 6 & 9 pm, Sun, 3:30 & 7 pm, open run. \$24.75-\$55, Apollo Thr, 2540 N Lincoln, 773 935-6100, www.apollochicago.com

****The Weird Sisters The three "sisters," one in drag, entertain you with their cabaret charms. Fri, 8 pm, Sat, 9 pm, open run. Free with a ticket stub from any downtown thr, Noble Fool Thr, 16 W Randolph, 312 726-1156, www.noblefool.com

****The Wizard of Oz Follow the yellow brick road to Navy Pier for a family-friendly musical stage version of the classic film. Weds, 2 & 7 pm, Thurs, 7 pm, Fri-Sat, 2 & 7 pm, Sun, 2 pm, thru Sept 1. \$28-\$38, Chgo Shakespeare Thr, 800 E. Grand, 312 595-5600, -www.chicagoshakes.com

DANCE

BBBBAug 29: **River North Chgo Dance Co** River

North's latest performance features Naeemah's Room, a new work by Kevin Iaga Jeff, as well as some old favorites, thru Aug 30. \$10-\$30, Ravinia, 847 266-5100, www.ravinia.org, www.rivernorthchicago.com

BBBBOct 25: **Dance Africa** This year's theme is Blessing of the Drums, Rhythmic Echoes, thru Oct 27. 312 344-7070 or www.danceafricachicago.com

ART/PHOTO

VVVVAlto Castillo Dialogues, recent works by Colombian artists Luis Fernando Uribe, Sept 6 thru Oct 5. Opening reception Fri, Sept 6, 5-9 pm. 233 W. Huron, 312 337-2536, www.artaldo.com

****Artemisia First Annual Videofest, with 23 video shorts by 21 artists, juried by Barbara De Genevieve, thru Aug 31. Works by Mille Guldbek, Karen Brown, Ellie Wallace, Shauna Angel Blue and Jean Marie Casbarian, Sept 5 thru 28. Opening reception Fri, Sept 6, 5-8 pm. 700 N Carpenter, 312 226-7323, www.artemisia.org

****Art Institute Gerhard Richter: Forty Years of Painting, thru Sept 15. Negotiating History: German Art and the Past, thru Sept 22. Nudes by Penn, photographs of female nudes by Irving Penn, thru Oct 6. Fukusa and Furoshiki: Splendid Japanese Gift Covers and Wrapping Cloths, thru Nov 17. Chgo Architects, continuing. Power Struggles: Cleopatra's Relatives and Their Rivals, continuing. 111 S Michigan, 312 443-3600, www.artic.edu

BBBBBronzeville Children's Museum A Story of African American Music, a hands-on exhibit for kids about the history and evolution of African American music, ongoing. Evergreen Plaza, 95th and Western, 708 636-9504

BBBBChgo Historical Society Fashion, Flappers, 'n All That Jazz, a historical exhibit on the Jazz Age of 1920s Chgo, thru Sept 29. Clark at North, 312 642-4600

BBBBDuSable Museum of African American History Three Legends: Elizabeth Catlett, Jacob Lawrence and Samella Lewis, thru Oct

11. Annie Malone, Black Beauty Culture Pioneer, thru Dec 20. 740 E 56th, 773 947-0600, www.dusablemuseum.org

VVVVEcho Tango Argentino: The Spirit of Buenos Aires, photographs by Eduardo Blidner, thru Sept 21. 1529 W. Chicago, 312 666-0858, www.echogallery.org

Frederick C Robie House Frank Lloyd Wright's masterful Prairie Style house features sweeping horizontal planes and dramatic cantilevers. 45-minute guided tours Mon-Fri, 11 am, 1 and 3 pm, and Sat-Sun, 11 am-3:30 pm. 5757 S Woodlawn, 773 834-1847, www.wrightplus.org

Glessner House Museum Public tours of this 1880s-built historic home, Wed-Sun, at 1, 2, and 3 pm. 1800 S Prairie, 312 326-1480, www.glessnerhouse.org

****High Risk The newly redesigned gallery on the ground level of the Lambda Publications HQ features work by WCT contributor Jorjet Harper, Walter Fydyck, and others. Ongoing, Tues-Sun, 10 am-8 pm. 1113 W Belmont, 773 296-4443

BBBBVVVV****Museum of Contemporary Art What Barbara Jordan wore, nine paintings and an installation by Donald Moffett, thru Sept 1. People See Paintings: Photography and Painting from the MCA Collection, thru Sept 1. Works by German photographer Andreas Gursky, thru Sept 22. Matta in America, works by Chilean-born surrealist painter Roberto Matta, thru Oct 20. Alexander Calder in Focus: Works from the Leonard and Ruth Horwich Family Loan, thru Apr 2003. 220 E Chicago, 312 280-2660, www.mchicago.org

BBBBTerramuseum Young America: Treasures from the Smithsonian American Art Museum, thru Oct 20. Dox Thrash: An African-American Master Printmaker Rediscovered, Sept 10 thru Nov 3. 664 N. Michigan, 312 664-3939, www.terramuseum.org

Woman Made Ninth Annual Members' Show, with works by 58 member/artists, thru Aug 29. Political Women, a group exhibition juried by Christie Hefner and Leah Oates, Sept 13 thru Oct 10. Opening reception Fri, Sept 13, 6-9 pm. 1900 S. Prairie, 312 328-0038

TEENS SUE LESBIAN MOM

The Houston Chronicle reports that a lesbian mom has been forced to adjust her life after settling with her own daughters. African-American Texas lesbian Kimla Green saw her teenage daughters, who ran away from home in early July, at a court house, where both sides were ready to make concessions. Green said she would "no longer practice that lifestyle" in front of her daughters, and the girls said they will stop attending the church that allegedly took them from their home, the paper said.

"The teens smiled at their mother when they saw each other in court and later hugged her briefly before leaving the courthouse," the paper noted.

The girls had filed a lawsuit asking the court to remove disability of a minor. If granted, the girls could choose where they live, which school they attend, enter into contracts as

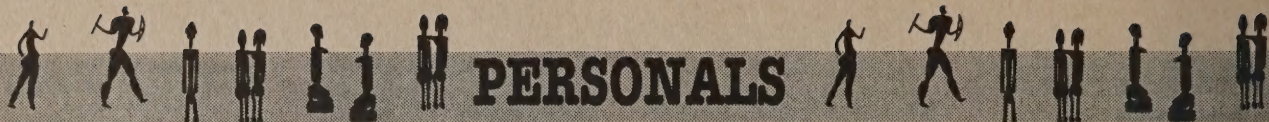
adults for housing and make their own decisions regarding medical treatment. "I love my daughters. Relationships may come and go, but my daughters will always be there," Green said.

La Kenna, 17, and Shanicola, 16, will continue living with an aunt and uncle in Harris County until the case is transferred to Fort Bend County Aug. 28.

Their mom accused the Body of Christ Ministry's pastor of brainwashing her girls into "gay-bashing."

Film About Bisexual Senegalese opens

KARMEN GEI, based on Bizet's *Carmen*, is about an electric bisexual diva in Senegal, runs Sept. 13-19 at Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St. (between Lake and Randolph Streets). Tickets: \$8, general public; \$4 Film Center members; (312) 575-8000 or ticketmaster.com.



CODES: ISO=In Search Of, LTR=Long Term Relationship, S=Single, P=Professional, NS=Non Smoker

WARNINGS: 1. We do not print home phone numbers or addresses. 2. Vice officers sometimes respond to suspect ads in an effort to uncover illegal activity. Note: sex-for-money agreements (even if no sex occurs) are illegal.

MEN

GBPM, 58 y/o. Lookin' good. Rockin' steady. ISO GBM for stimulating chats to scintillating sweats. **VM (630) 694-4961 or Write: NL Box 753 (11)**

Attractive BM, 39, seeks Latino, Black, Asian, or White M for friendship. Please enclose a picture with your response. **Write: NL Box 749 (9)**

ISO foreign born or French-speaking gay men for friendship, possibly more. Weight/height proportionate. Non-smoker, moderate chest hair, and close-cut facial hair a plus. I'm GWM, 53, uncut, SE DuPage. **Write: NL Box 741 (9)**

GH/AM, 31. Out in November. Need someone and someplace to come home to. **Write: Sam Sanchez, #581546, 3060 FM 3514, Beaumont, TX, 77705 (10)**

WOMEN

Wanted: Butch, professional, sweet, loves self and others. Me: the same. Yes, I like other butches. I am very nurturing, and can stimulate your mind, body (in time), and spirit. Interests: live theatre, Eastern religions, cooking, art galleries, and poetry. What do you like? NS, health conscious. **E-mail: adagio606@yahoo.com or Write: NL Box 830 (9)**

Independent, elegant GBF (44, 5'3", slim) prefers G/Bi F (45-50+, over 5'10", height/weight proportionate) available for dating. Bonus points for refined, accomplished, high-rund professional or business women. Discretion guaranteed...and fun too. **VM (773) 381-5886 (9)**

GWF, 41, NS, resides in NW sub-urbs. Honest, big hearted home-

Personals

How to place an ad:

- The first 20 words are free; each additional word is 25¢. Ads run 2 Months. ADS ARE FOR ONE-ON-ONE MATCHES. Groups wishing to place ads in personals can do so at CLASSIFIED rates (\$10/30 words for 1 month, 3 months \$27).
- In addition to your ad, send your name, address, home phone & signature.
- You can rent BLACKLINES mailbox/\$6 per month, if you wish to have written responses forwarded to you; we send them out once a week. (If you have your own PO Box, voice mail #, e-mail or beeper #, we request \$5 per 2 months. We DO NOT accept ads with home address/phone)
- Deadline is 10th of each month for next BLACKLINES. You can also run in Nightspots and Windy City Times and En La Vida.

How to respond to an ad:

- If an ad ends with an address or pager, reply direct to them.
- If ad ends with NL BOX #, you can *only* reply by mail.
- To respond in writing, send letter to the NL/V # or NL BOX # specified at the end of the ad, c/o BLACKLINES, 1115 W. Belmont, 2-D, Chgo, IL 60657. Respond to all others ads as specified at the end of the ad.

(773) 871-7610 for questions

Ad should read

Please also run ad in (no extra \$): ☐ Windy City Times ☐ Nightspots ☐ En La Vida

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION— MUST BE FILLED OUT:

Classified rates
(\$10 for 1
month, 3
months \$27).

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Signature: _____

Cost of the ad:

1st 20 words, 2 months	FREE
Additional words 25¢ ea.	\$ _____
MailBox # (\$7 per month)	\$ _____
Use own PO/Beeper/VM/e-mail, \$5	\$ _____
Total Amount Enclosed:	\$ _____
Send to: BLACKLINES/Windy City, 1115 W. Belmont, Suite 2-D, Chicago, IL 60657	

body ISO GF, NS, femme or very soft (Mia Hamm) tomboy who would like to be in a committed relationship. **Write: NL Box 828 (9)**

MIX AND MATCH
SBM, poetic, handsome, understanding. ISO devoted friend for the fulfillment that will be captured as we unfold our love together! **Write: Willie T. McPhee, #918192, FL State Prison, 7819 NW 228th St, Raiford, FL, 32026-1190 (9)**

Commercial Closet

Hallmark Greets Gays with Maya Angelou Cards

By Michael Wilke

You still can't find man-on-man cards at Hallmark stores, but the company is greeting the gay community for the first time with online ads.

As it introduces its Life Mosaic line of inspirational cards, featuring words by renowned poet Dr. Maya Angelou, Hallmark Cards is targeting "community leaders"—including online gays—to spread the word.

"We're looking to build inspiration for the line within communities who have had challenges and adversity like Maya Angelou," says Jennifer Brady, an associate director at Starcom IP, which handles online advertising for Hallmark. "We're targeting a wide audience of age, race and lifestyles to create a contagious confidence with community leaders."

The campaign includes ads and short polls on PlanetOut.com and gay.com (both sites are owned by PlanetOut Partners) that began in February and are expected to run periodically through the end of the year. The ads contain quotes from Angelou such as, "I am changed by what happens to me. I am not reduced by it," and "There is an intimate laughter to be found only among friends."

Also trying to reach book clubs, people in church and the workplace, ads will appear on women's site iVillage.com, oprah.com, Martha Stewart Living, Reader's Digest, Sunset, a magazine for retired persons, and Country Music Weekly.

Brady couldn't say if offline gay media will be added for advertising, but says that the ads are performing well on gay.com and Planet Out. "Our expectations were exceeded," she says, though she declines to offer data before the campaign is complete.

What makes now the time for the family-oriented card company to seek the gay market? "We felt they are the right target for this line and it's important for us to reach the right consumers," says Julie O'Dell, a Hallmark spokeswoman, who adds the company hasn't "had any issues" with conservatives opposing the effort.

www.CommercialCloset.org.



Dr. Maya Angelou

CLASSIFIEDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BISEXUAL/GAY MEN WANTED: Bi-gay men, age 20-40, wanted for a study of the psychological and physiological aspects of male sexual arousal. **Study takes about 2 hours and pays \$50. Northwestern University, Evanston Campus, (847) 491-3820. (5/02)**

THE INTERNATIONALLY renowned **Chicago Festival Choir** seeks members, especially tenors and basses, for performances of Messiah and other classics. **Contact Robert Neal at (773) 363-1700. (10/02)**

CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN professional networking association invites all area GLBT professionals to our monthly meetings. We are a diverse organization of men and women professionals who seek to form friendships and develop networking opportu-

Participants Wanted

Long term NIH study of men with and without HIV infection is expanding enrollment to increase participation of men of color, and seeks HIV negative participants who are African American or Hispanic.

Study visits take about 2 hours and pay \$25 for time, expense and inconvenience.

Cook County Bureau of Health Services CORE Center campus
312-572-4552

Mary M. York
Rosemary S. Mulryan

Mulryan & York
Attorneys at Law

3442 N. Southport
(773) 248-8887

11 E. Adams, Suite 1008
(312) 922-9344

nities within our community. Meetings are held on the First Friday (Social Cocktails) and the Third Wednesday (Dinner Program) of each month. For information: **(773) 296-2762, <http://www/cpna.org> (01/02)**

COUNSELING

RESOLVING CONFLICT is rarely about who is right. Rather, it's about acknowledgement and appreciation of differences. Negotiated problem solving and mediation for lesbian and gay couples/ families in a safe setting. **Susan O'Dell, LCSW, (773) 262-7010. (9/02)**

HELP WANTED

INTAKE LINE STAFFER/PARALEGAL for nat'l gay rights org. Seeking responsible, motivated, organized person w/patient & clear phone manner, good computer & research skills. Strong interest in lesbian/gay/AIDS legal issues a must. Bilingual skills strongly preferred. Salary from high 20's, DOE, exclt benefits. See www.lambdalegal.org for details. **Letter & resume ASAP to P. Logue, Lambda Legal, 11 East Adams, Ste 1008, Chicago, IL 60603. (9/02)**

LEGAL SECRETARY: Seeking candidates with MS Word, good skills, litigation background. Excellent benefits. Salary commensurate. EEO/AA employer. For more: www.aclu-il.org. Send, fax or e-mail resume and cover letter: **ACLU of IL, 180 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 2300, Chicago,**

BLACKLINES CLASSIFIEDS

\$10 one month; \$36 four months; \$68 eight months just \$90 one year (773) 871-7610

All rates for 30 words
(25¢ each word over 30)

All rates PRE-PAID only.

DEADLINE

the 10th of each month
for following month.

All articles, poetry, artwork
must be turned in by the 5th
of each month.

IL 60601, fax (312) 201-9760, e-mail postmaster@aclu-il.org (6/02)

HOT NUMBERS

sex4hotmen.com HOT Men Cruising for
HOT Sex in Your city! Meet Local Men!
FREE membership! (8/02)

ROOMMATE

HYDE PARK: Roommate needed to share modern apt. with 2 BDRM/2 BA and a great park view. On U of C bus route. Secure building. Laundry, Dishwasher, A/C included. **\$600/mo. + utilities. Contact Russell (773) 301-3906. (8/02)**

MODELS WANTED!

**Black, Latins,
Whites, & Asian
unpublished models
under 30 for solo
and/or interracial
photos & videos.**

**Fast cash
& great pay!**

**Call toll-free
1-866-99-MODEL
(1-866-996-6335)**

SERVICES

COMPUTER BOY:
Own a computer and don't know how to use it? I can teach you at home. **Call "Computer Chris" for more information at (773) 844-3626. (06/02)**

TRAVEL

WhuzzUp this week in D.C.? Men's Event & Info Line in the Black Gay Capitol: **1-900-963-0230 (\$1.95 per min). *** ALSO TRY MALEBOX MAGAZINE:** The Intimate Opinions, Experiences & Emotions of Black Gay Men \$29/12 issues (hdcpy only). **Maleboxdc@yahoo.com 1-800-798-3477 for sample.**



COCOBOYZ.COM



World Wide Web

by Andrew Davis

Out of "Site"

1. The Friendly Bears of Port Elizabeth (<http://www.geocities.com/pebearsa/>): When you think of South Africa, you don't normally think of bears—but now you just might. Find out where to go in South Africa (for gay fun), read about group-led events and even talk with various club members.

2. Sapphic Sisters (<http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Park/2535/>): This distaff site basically serves as a repository of lesbian links. Find links that relate to topics/themes as varied as collegiate organizations, motherhood and Winnie the Pooh (one of the host's private obsessions). You can even contribute to the economy by purchasing a shirt, mug or mousepad.

3. PlanetPapi.com - Hot Black Men (<http://www.planetpapi.com/>): See some of the hottest brothers on the planet at this site—with shots that are both naughty and nice. Look up escorts/masseurs, gawk at "action videos" (the type that might star "Black-tion Jackson") browse personal ads and peruse club/bar listings. (Note: If you can't handle nudity, avoid this site. If you can, feel free to thank me.)

4. Native American Gay Pride/White Wolf's Den (<http://www.pe.net/~whwolf/gaypride.htm>): Our Native American brothers and sisters are feted in this personal site (although it's hardly comprehensive). One of the best links is Sacred Circles (<http://sacredcircles2000.homestead.com/files/default.html>) which explains the concept of the "two spirit" people.

5. Yo Mama Jokes (<http://www.ahajokes.com/ym01.html>): Contrary to popular belief, not all "yo mamma" jokes begin and end with George Wallace. This quite large collection of put-downs is organized in such categories as "Yo mamma is so greasy" and "Yo mamma is so nasty." Of course they're not exactly politically correct, but you can't deny the value of a joke like "Yo mama's so fat she fell in love and broke it."

6. Deaf Queer Resource Center (<http://www.deafqueer.org/>): Reaching out to the gay deaf community, this site has everything from the Point of View Cafe to a slide show. Be sure to take a look at the various personal homepages.

7. Lee's Music Pages - Phyllis Hyman (<http://www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Park/9884/phyllis.htm>): The legendary diva (who left us far too soon) is the subject of this fan site. You'll find a biography and (thankfully) photos of this larger-than-life singer. For more details about Hyman, check out A Tribute to Phyllis Hyman (<http://www.geocities.com/Hearthland/Meadows/2318/>). Here, you can read info about her music and even look at past issues of the Phyllis Hyman newsletter. (Yeah, I didn't know there was one, either.)

I'm at turn_it_up@hotmail.com.

F.Y.I. Resources

Predominantly Black Gay Clubs

CLUB ESCAPE, M.W.D. 1530 E. 75th St.	773-667-6454
CLUB INTIMUS	312-901-1703
COZY CAT PRODUCTIONS, W.D. call for parties	312-941-3763
EXECUTIVE SWEET 7345 S. Luella 60649; call for party info	
p.mccombs@worldnet.att.net	773-375-7144
JEFFERY PUB 7041 S. Jeffrey, MW, D, 4	773-363-8555
KC PRODUCTIONS, EAST OF THE RYAN	
914 E. 79th St.	773-386-5700
THE RAILS AT PROP HOUSE, 1675 N. Elston, MW, D, The Rails@aol.com	708-802-1705

OTHER Clubs OF INTEREST

BERLIN 954 Belmont, MW, V, 4, S	773-348-4975
BIG CHICKS 5024 N. Sheridan, S/G, WM, 11a-2a/3a Sa	773-728-5511
BUDDIES' REST/BAR 3301 Clark, MW, R	773-477-4066
CHICAGO EAGLE, M.L., 5015 N. Clark	773-728-0050
CIRCUIT 3641 N. Halsted, Salsa, etc.	773-325-2233
GIRLBAR, 2625 N. Halsted, W.D.	773-871-4210
MAN'S COUNTRY 5017 N. Clark, M, B	773-878-2069
MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE	312-409-0276
1700 W. Farragut, one block north of Foster	
SIDETRACK 3349 N. Halsted, M, V	773-477-9189
STAR GAZE 5419 N. Clark, M, W, R, D, E	773-561-7363
TEMPTATIONS 10235 W. Grand, Franklin Park, W, D, V, E, 4, (Sa Fri/Sat)	847-455-0008

Resources

AA/Newtown Alano Club	773-529-0321
Adodi African-American men	312-458-9584
Affinity, creating a South Side community center	
P.O. Box 496002, Chicago, IL 60649	773-324-0377
A Real Read—African-American Lesbian/Gay/Trans Performers	
www.uic.edu/orgs/arealread	312-409-2457
Ashanti/MOIP 1346 S. Michigan	312-986-0661
BLACKLINES, Lambda Pub/Windy City Times	
1115 W. Belmont, #2-D, 60657 (FAX 773-871-7609)	773-871-7610
Brother 2 Brother Chicago BRO2BROCHI@aol.com	
Brother 4 Life SoSide Help Cntr, 366 E. 63rd St.	773-324-1882
BROTHERS C.A.N. (Community Awareness Network)	
Programming	773-752-7867
Brothers United Together BRO2BROCHI@aol.com	
Chicago Black Lesbians & Gays,	
P.O. Box 14811, Chicago, IL 60614-1181	312-409-4917
Chicago Black Pride	773-731-8665
chicagofri@aol.com, 7836 S. Kingston Ave., 60649	
Chicago Friends Community Service Network	
7836 S. Kingston Ave., 60649	773-731-3392
Afric.Amer. men single-parent support & young adult mentors	
Church of the Open Door FAX (773) 778-0178	773-778-3030
Black lesbian/gay/trans/heterosexual Church, 5954 S. Albany	
EXECUTIVE SWEET 7345 S. Luella 60649; call for party info	
p.mccombs@worldnet.att.net	773-375-7144
GAMBA: Discussion for men of African Descent	773-752-7867
Greater Chicago Committee, 4549 W. Washington 60624	
Fax (773) 287-9860	773-287-3263
Harambe Wellness Center	773-388-1600
Harambe Jahard Suburban	
Afric.-Amer. Bi/GayMen	708-492-2055
Horizons Community Services	773-929-HELP
Anti-Violence Project: Horizons/24 hrs	773-871-CARE
Howard Brown Health Center	773-388-1600
Imani Umoja, Chicago Afric.-Amer Bi/Gay men	773-334-7059
meets Ann Sather's, 929 Belmont	
Lakeside Pride Freedom Band	773-381-6693
Lesbian Community Cancer Project	773-561-4662
Men of All Colors Together/Chicago, PO Box	
408922, 60640-8922	312-409-6916
Minority Outreach Intervention Proj, FAX 312-986-0928	
1346 S. Michigan	312-986-0661
National Black L&G Leadership Forum	202-483-6786
Oak Park Area Women's Drum Circle	708-763-0991
Onyx/Chicago leather/men, 1340 Irving, #188, 60613	
Roseland Community Hospital	773-995-6469
Southside Coalition 10420 S. Halsted, HIV	773-445-9520
Test Positive Aware/Brothers United in Support	773-404-8726
Toussaintian Brothers of Illinois	847-625-7263
TransGenesis trans support	800-805-4052
United Faith Affinitas, Black L/G/Bi, 1448 E. 53rd	773-878-7839
Windy City Black Pride	312-986-0661 x31
1346 S. Michigan, windycitybp@yahoo.com	
Women of All Colors Together	773-267-0976, (708) 869-9120
Womyn Space: Lez Be In, a sister circle	773-874-2222
Young Men's Coalition for Advocacy	
SoSide Help Cntr, 366 E. 63rd St.	773-324-1882



At Northalsted Market Days. Photo by Terri Klinsky

According to the Chicago Department of Public Health,
syphilis is now classified as an outbreak among Chicago men who have sex with men.



**I THINK THERE'S
SOMETHING
WRONG WITH
SCOTT. I SAW THE
NASTY SORE HE
GOT. IT WENT
AWAY LAST
SATURDAY. IS HE
OKAY OR NOT?**

know the signs of syphilis

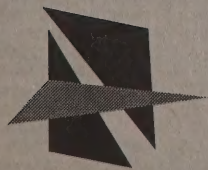
THE PRIMARY STAGE: THE CHANCER

(pronounced shanker)

- A chancre is a sore that develops within 21 days of contact with an infectious partner
- The sore—or sores—will appear at the spot where syphilis first entered your body
- Chancres are generally firm, round, small and painless
- Sores can last from 3-to-6 weeks and will eventually disappear. But don't be fooled...
- If you don't seek treatment, you still have syphilis
- Without treatment, Primary Stage syphilis will advance to a Secondary Stage

THE SECONDARY STAGE: THE RASH

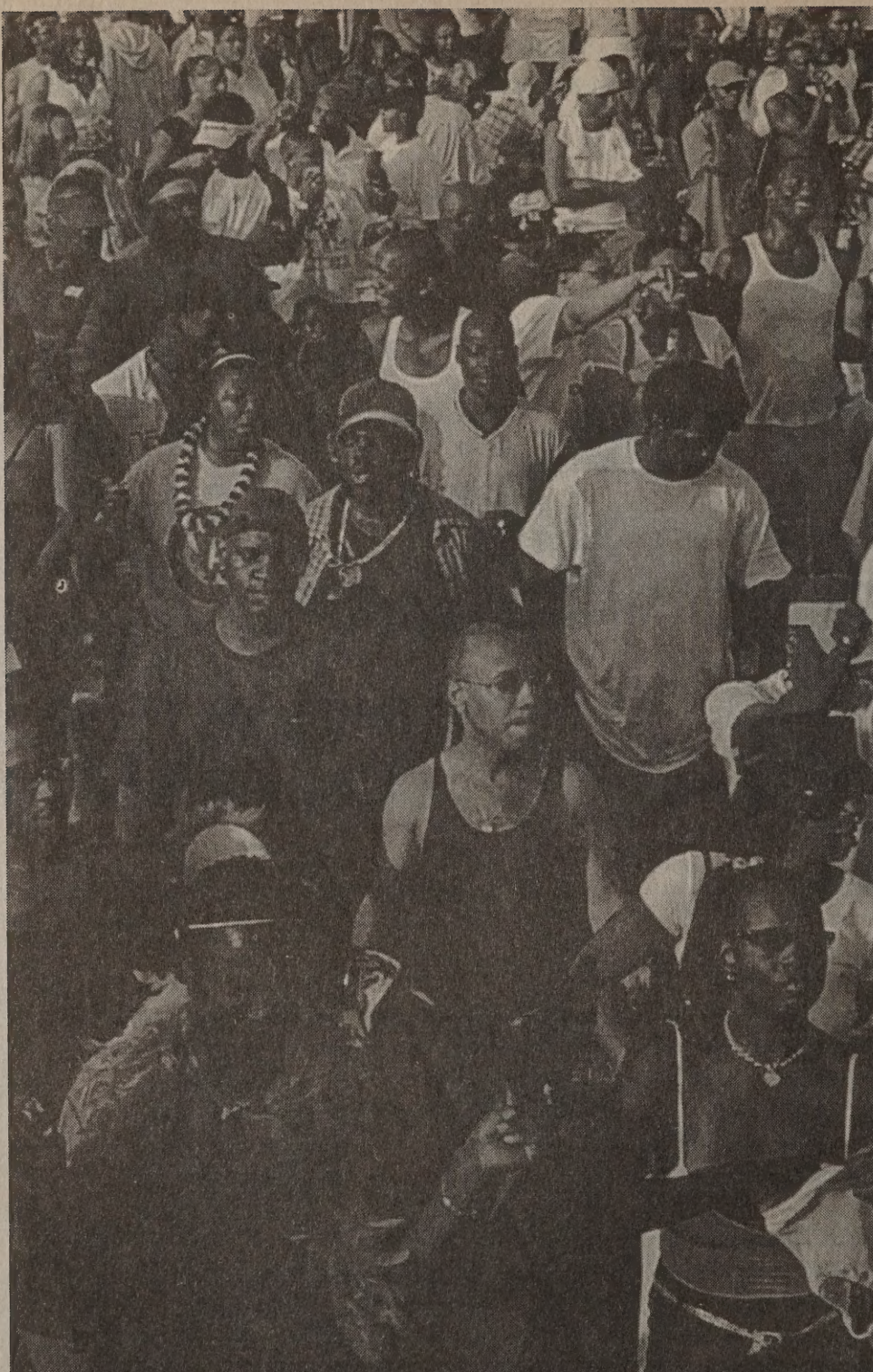
- Look for a rash to break out on one or more parts of your body. (Chances are, it won't itch)
- The rash may appear as the chancre is fading, or it may be delayed for weeks
- The rash may appear in the form of rough spots on your palms and/or the soles of your feet
- You may also notice a rash on your chest and/or stomach
- Your rash will clear up, but if you don't seek treatment, you still have syphilis



Recognize these symptoms? If so, stop having sex and visit
Howard Brown Health Center or your personal physician immediately.

Howard Brown Health Center

773-388-1600 www.howardbrown.org



windycitypride.org

SAVE THE DATE: **OCTOBER 31, 2002**

WINDY CITY BLACK LGBT PRIDE, INC.
IS CELEBRATING **HALLOWEEN.**

(CHECK OUR WEB SITE FOR DETAILS)